

FAMILY **MAD**

NO. 46
DEC
2025

PUTTING
THE "FUN"
BACK INTO
DYSFUNCTION





EVERYTHING'S A
COMMIE PLOT

KOOKY
SENATORS

SIMPLE MINDED
SATIRISTS

TEN
COMMANDMENTS

MORAL
CHOICES

POOR
SELF
IMAGE

INSENSITIVE
PARENTS

SCHOOL
PROBLEMS

PEER PRESSURE

REPORT
CARD

F

MACHO
MAN

MAD™

NO. 46

DECEMBER 2025

WILLIAM M. GAINES FOUNDER

SUZY HUTCHINSON ART DIRECTOR

BERN MENDOZA ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR



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CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS & WRITERS The Usual Gang of Idiots

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INSIDE BACK COVER A MAD Fold-In by Johnny Sampson

VARIOUS PLACES Drawn Out Dramas by Sergio Aragonés

COVER ARTIST Mark Fredrickson

The vintage MAD pieces reprinted in this issue were produced in a time that was less mindful and sensitive to matters of race, gender, sexual identity, religion, and food allergies. The text of these articles is presented mostly unaltered (and with crossed fingers) for historical reference.

@Jaffee



SERGE-IN GENERAL DEPT.

SERGIO ARAGONÉS
PRESENTS

A MAD LOOK



WRITER & ARTIST **SERGIO ARAGONÉS** COLORIST **CARRIE STRACHAN**



AT FAMILY FUNCTIONS









It's time to make the funny pages great again! So let's turn back the clock (and social progress) as we grimly smile at the antics of America's First Dad and Mom, and their adorable scamps...

THE TRUN



"Dad's punishing me for sayin' the seven dirty words. 'Live, from New York, it's Saturday Night!'"



"Daddy, where'd Chris Christie go?"

Because the artist shares President Trump's work ethic, today's cartoon was drawn by little Donny (age 39'").



My father is the #1 best at international relations!



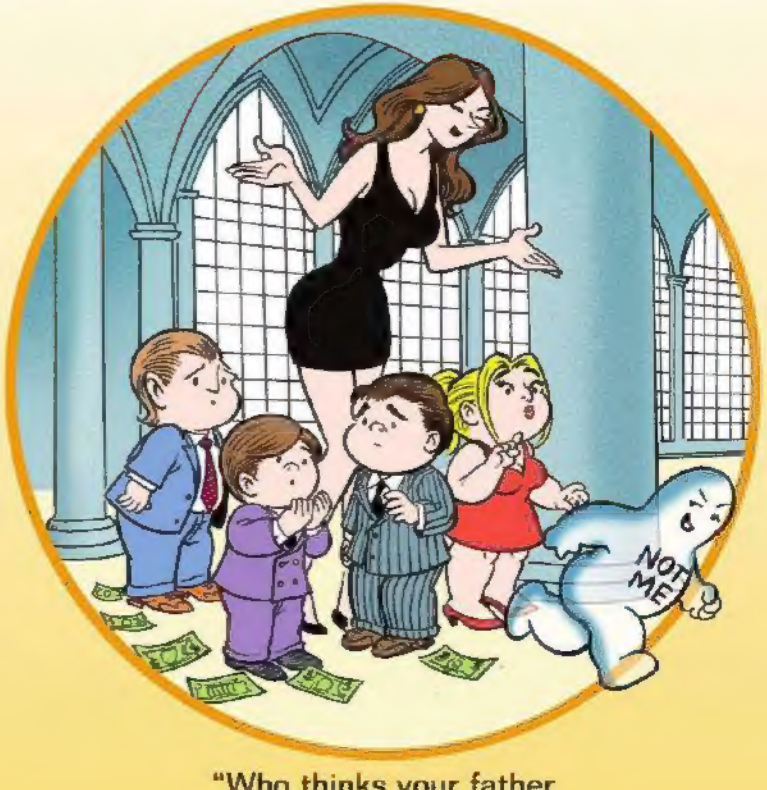
"No, sweetie, not EVERYTHING is radical Islamic terrorism."



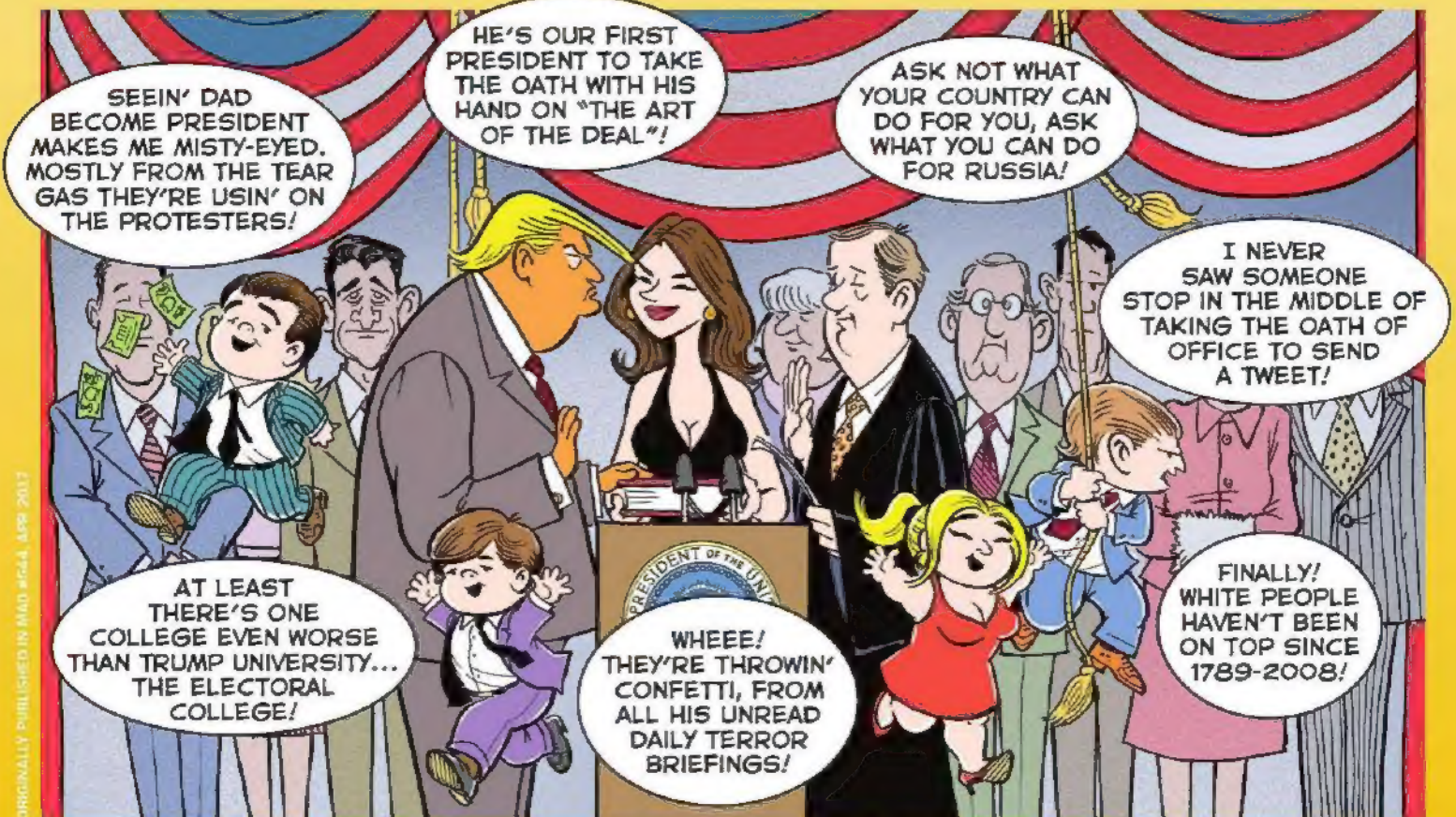
MP FAMILY CIRCUS

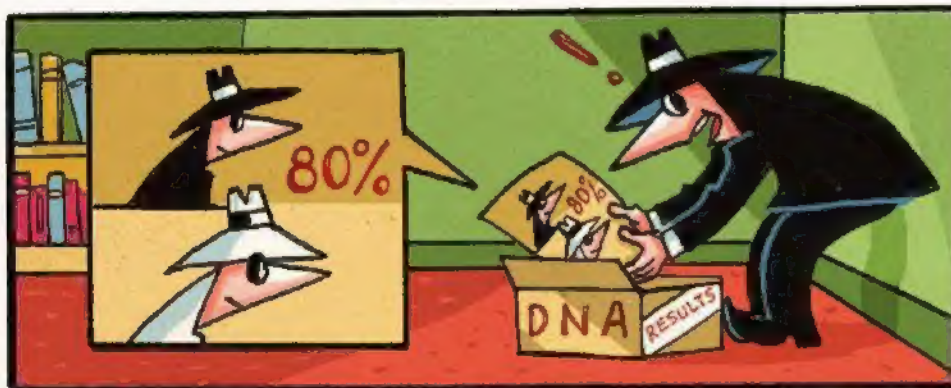
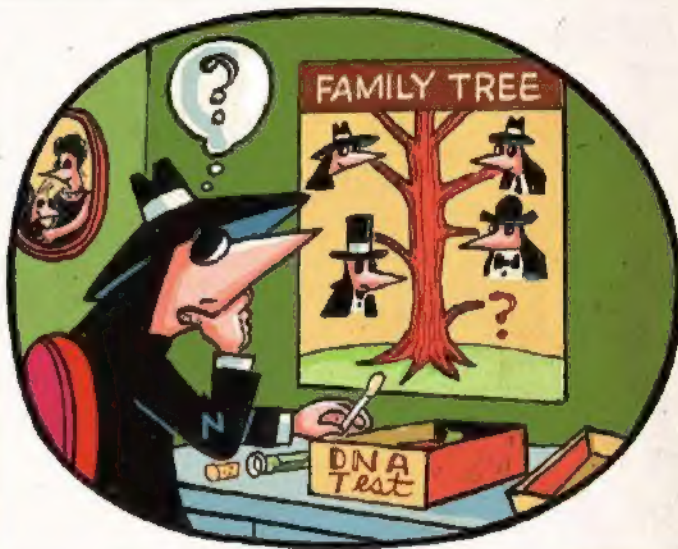


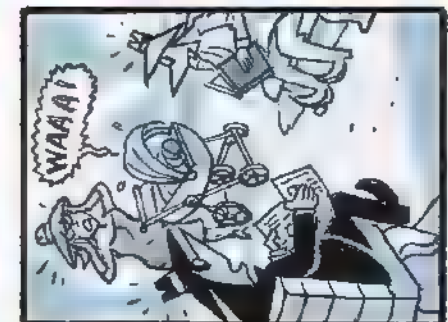
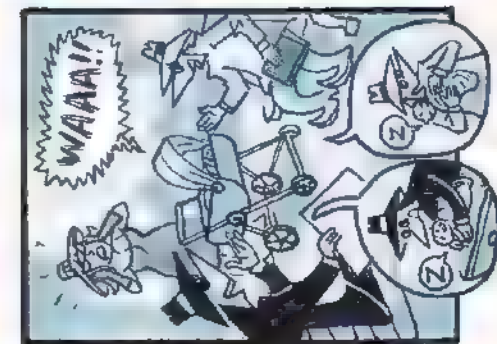
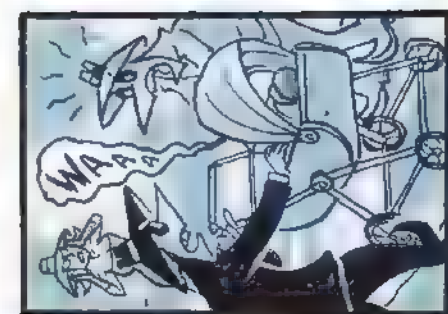
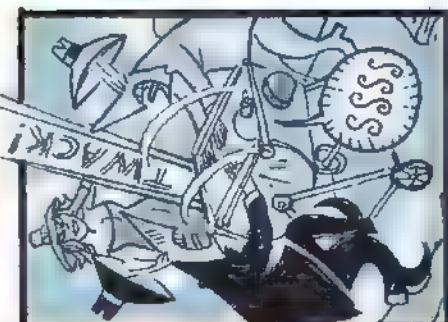
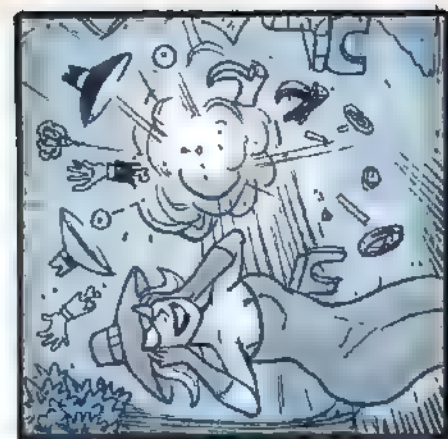
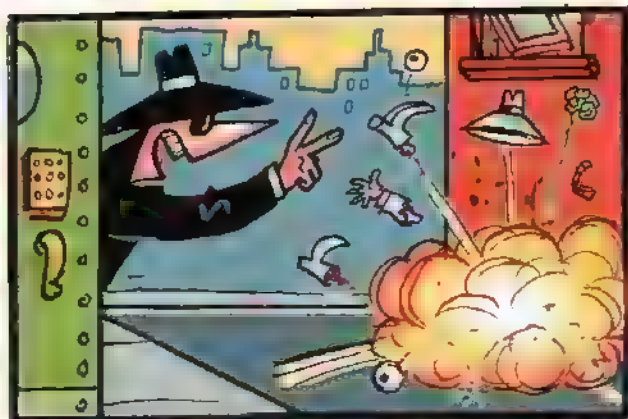
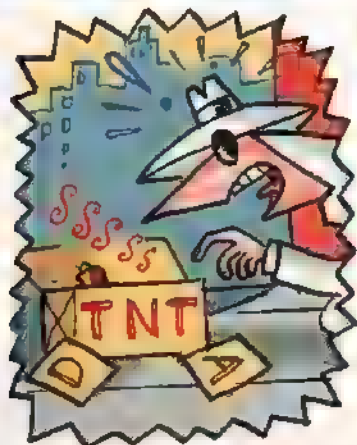
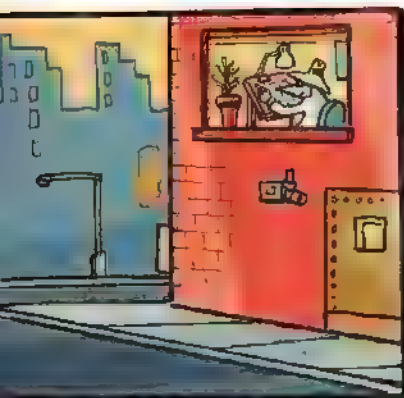
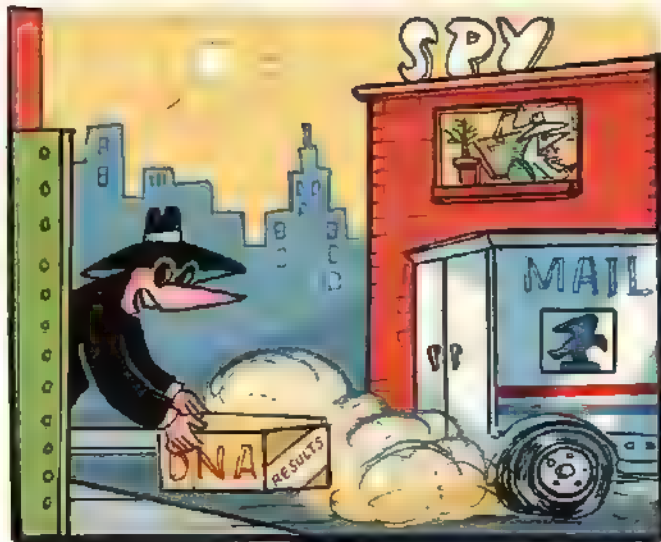
"2+2 is 4, which is what my daddy said you are after he saw you at the last parent-teacher conference."



"Who thinks your father can bring this divided nation together?"





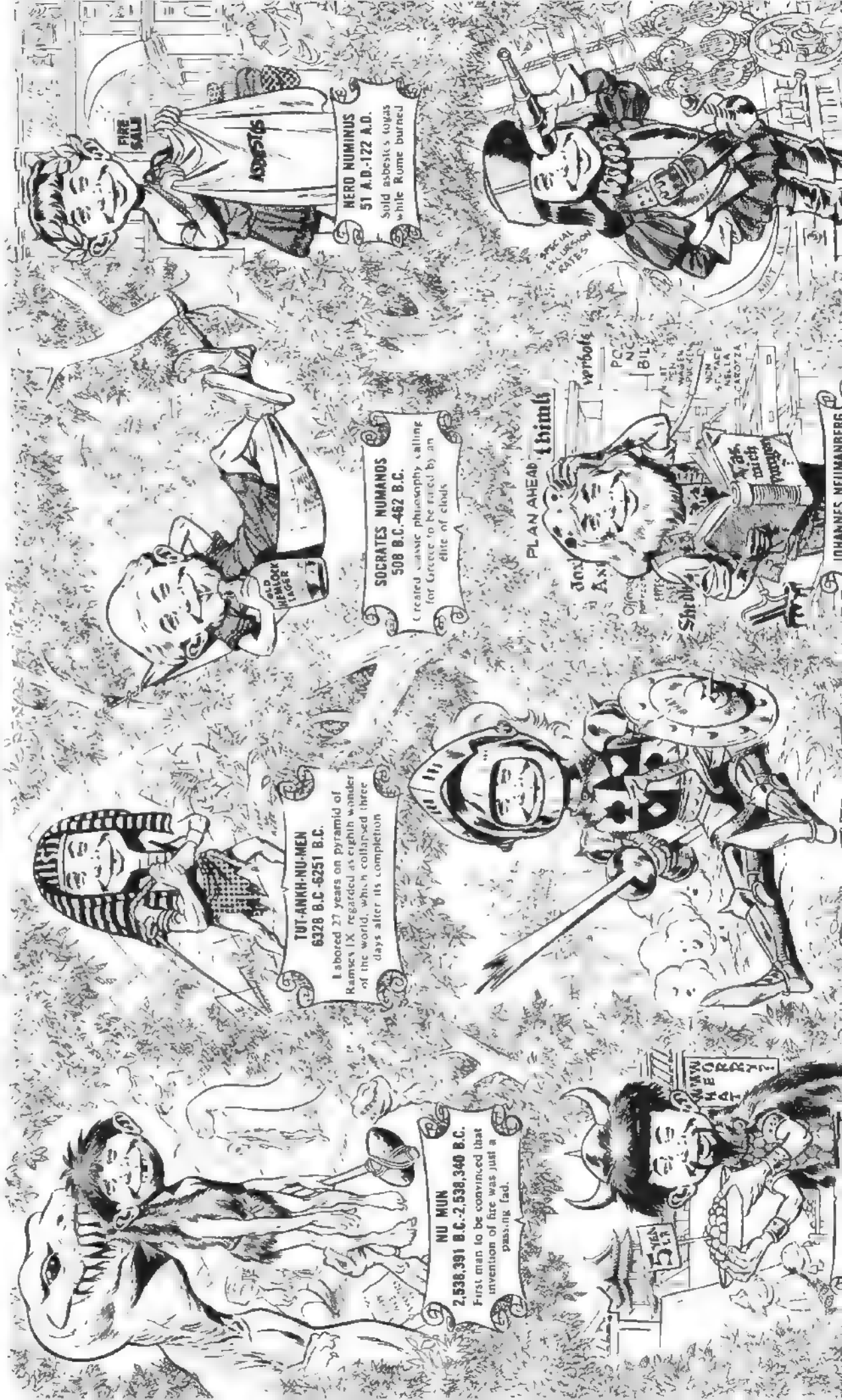


SPY VS KDS VS SPY

Hardly a day goes by that letters don't pour into MAD's palatial tenement offices from deficients all over the country asking: "Just who is this Alfred E. Neuman?" "Where did he come from?" "What does he want?" "Who cares anyway?" etc. In answer to this great upsurge of interest in the subject, MAD has employed a genealogist (who works cheap) to investigate Alfred's background and fill us in on...

Alfred E. Neuman's FAMILY TREE

WRITER TOM KOCH ARTIST WALLACE WOOD



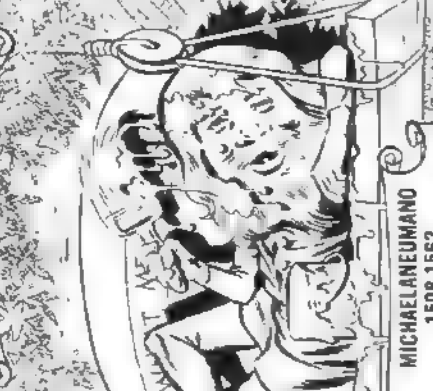
ALFRED THE HUN

453-513
Stayed home in Mongolia and operated a black market chic nut shop, while Attila's hordes conquered the known world.



ALFRED THE CHICKEN-HEARTED

1193-1258
Started out on Second Crusade. Made mistake of trying to ford stream three miles from home with armor on.



1417-1462

Attempted to print first book from moveable type. Gave up when he discovered he couldn't read.



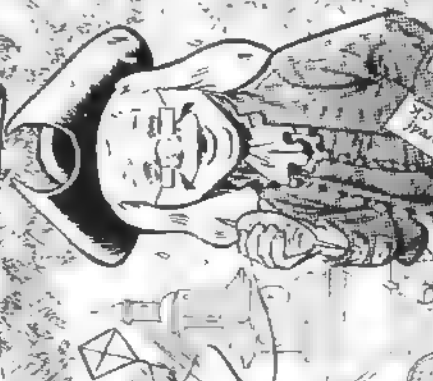
CHRISTOPHER NUMMBUS

1462-1513
Sailed Westward in 1492 searching for short route to Indies. Through poor navigation discovered Sweden.



AMERIGO NUMBUCCI

1470-1526
Read of discoveries of k-n-n-u-m-b-u-s. Christopher Nummbus was convinced Earth was flat, and spent rest of life searching for edge.



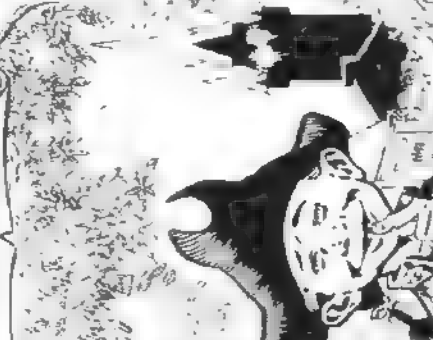
MICHAEL NEUMANO

1508-1562
Commissioned to paint ceiling of Sistine Chapel, mistakenly painted ceiling of building next door, which was condemned and torn down the following week.



ELDER NEUMAN

1584-1658
Convinced the "Mayflower" was unworthy, remained in England and went bankrupt in the Used Galeshes business.



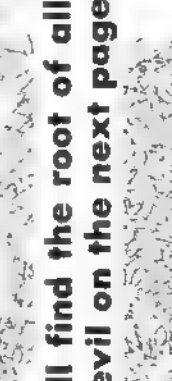
SIR ISAAC NEUMAN

1602-1681
Disagreed with Newton's Law of Gravity, spent 45 years in futile effort to prove things could fall up.



BENJAMIN NEUMAN

1707-1783
Successfully flew a kite during a storm and thereby proved the existence of wind.



GENERAL GEORGE NEUMAN

1732-1793
Crossed the Delaware with a ragged army and passed Washington going the other way.



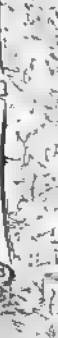
PAUL NEUMAN

1733-1781
Wanted to bring the news to every Middlesex village and farm then forgot whether two lamps meant by land or by sea so he went home.

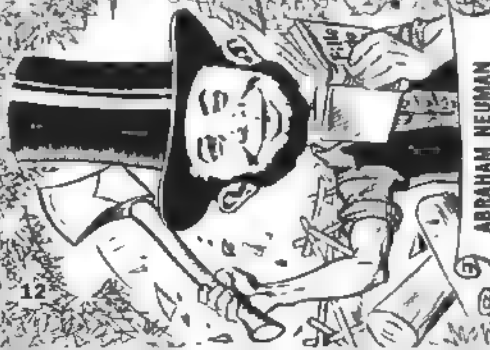


PATRICK NEUMAN

1742-1801
Seeking to avoid public censure, yet convinced the Colonies would lose The Revolution, became only man to sign the Declaration of Independence in disappearing ink.



You'll find the root of all this evil on the next page



ABRAHAM NEUMAN
1809-1865

Born in a log cabin, walked 20 miles to borrow racy French novels. Later lost bid for presidential nomination because he could only read French.



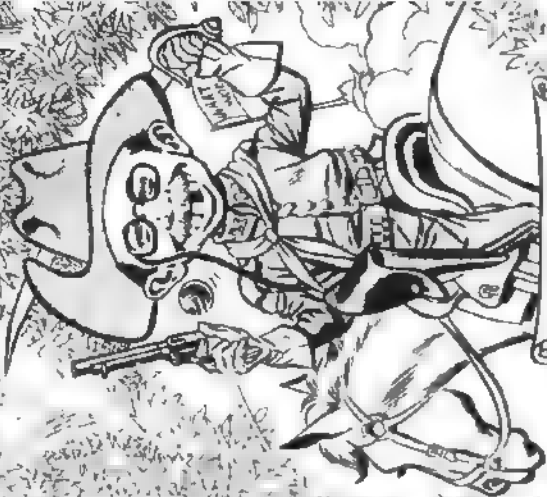
JEFFERSON DAVIS NEUMAN
1811-1870

Lost family fortune investing in fireworks factory anticipating Confederate Victory Celebration



NIKOLAI NUMANSKI
1856-1917

First man to predict Communists would never win control of Russia. First man to be sent to Siberia when they did.



TEDDY NEUMAN
1858-1919

Developed slogan "Speak loudly and carry a small stick." Joined Rough Riders and soon discovered he was allergic to horses.



THOMAS ALVA NEUMAN
1867-1928

Failed in demonstrating that a jar of fireflies would provide a cheap, efficient form of illumination.



WILLIAM JENNINGS NEUMAN
1848-1922

Delivered stirring "Cross of Gold" speech at Democratic National Convention of 1896 but speech impediment made it impossible for delegates to understand what he said.



ALFRED E. NEUMAN
1947-?

What-Me-Worry?

E PLURIBUS
OSSEPOOMA

WHAT ME WORRY?

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN YAO #11 JAN 1959

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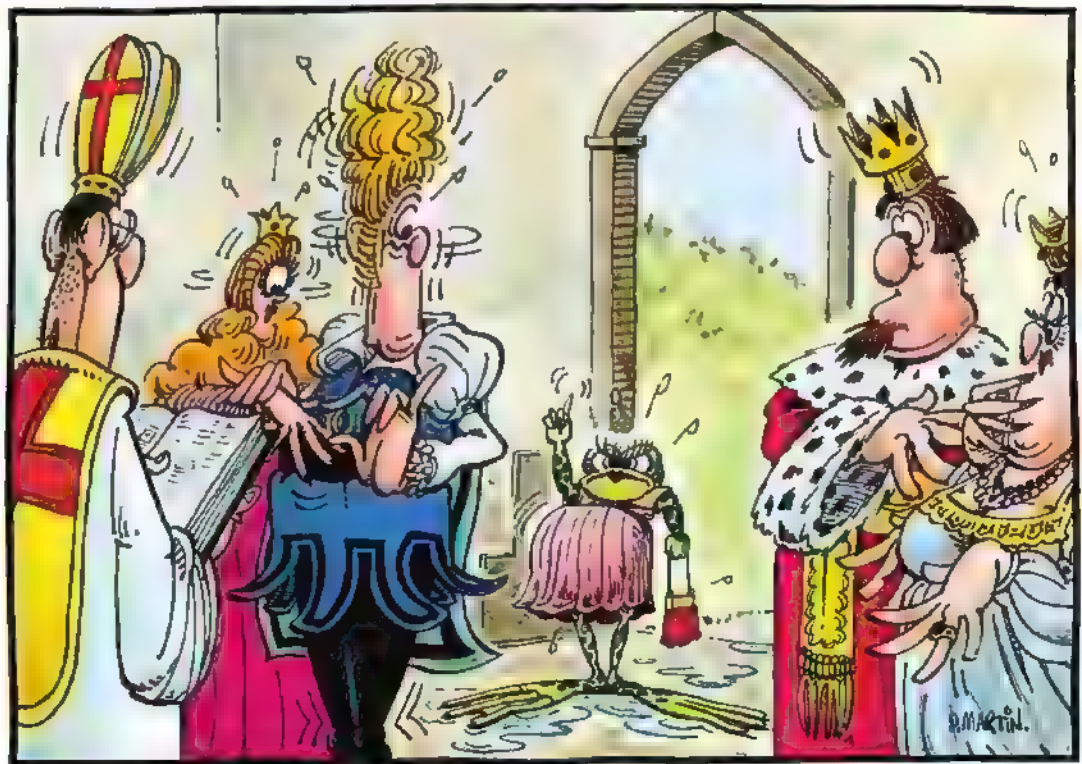
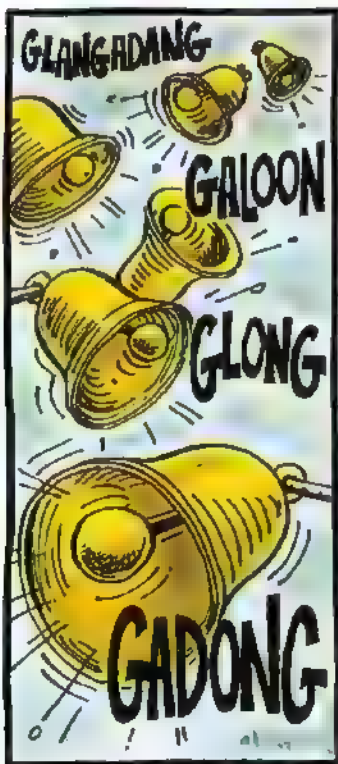
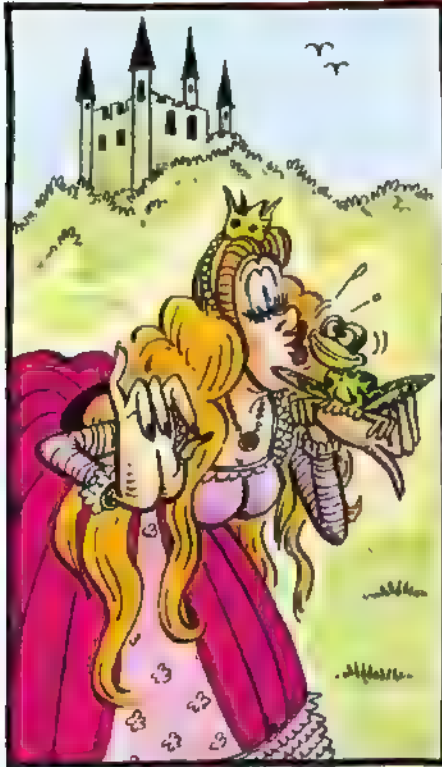
MORE



SCENES WE'D LIKE TO SEE

WRITER **DON EDWING** ARTIST **DON MARTIN**

(THE FROG PRINCE)



ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #177 SEP 1975

Hello! I'm Alec Baldwin! I once had a career as a movie actor! Now my career seems to be hosting Saturday Night Live and doing off-screen narration! Remember me in *Cats & Dogs* as the voice of Butch, the Chief Agency Dog? No? This will be even more forgetful! I'll be doing the voiceover narration for this film! It's fashioned as an old-time storybook fable and has cute chapter titles! It's all smoke and mirrors to make audiences forget there's no real story here! It's a quirky, irreverent farce! That's movie-speak for: Don't expect huge laughs! Here is...

THE ROYAL PAININTHEBUMS

I'm Royal Paininthebum! I'm patriarch of this disturbed family! This is not a happy bunch! We make the Menendez family look like the Osmonds! I guess I haven't been a perfect father! I playfully shot one kid with a BB gun! I trashed my adopted daughter's childhood play! I stole from their trust funds! I abandoned them! I made my children what they are today — depressed, glum and suicidal! But I'd like to make amends! I love my four children! Yes, you only see three in the film! I sold one of them for much-needed cash!

I'm Ethelfuel, the mom! Royal sucked the life out of the children, so I sent him packing 22 years ago! I brought up the kids myself! Somehow, on my watch they went from gifted children with great potential to complete failures! Fortunately, I have my work! I'm an archeologist! Lately, I've been looking to dig up old ruins in New York City, like a Woody Allen movie script from the 1970s! No luck! So we'll have to make do with this one — which tries to be the same thing but is not nearly as funny!

"Meet the parents!" I'll never say those words again! I'm Spazi! When I was nine my Dad shot me in the hand with a BB gun! When I was twelve he stole from my trust fund! Then I got married! My wife was killed in a plane crash! I can't prove it but I think my Dad shot down the plane! I hate the bastard! If you think I'm bitter and depressed, meet my sister!

I'm Rackety! When I was seventeen I was a national champion tennis player, a successful pro! Somewhere along the way I lost my lob! I'm in love with my sister, Maggot! I think it's okay, isn't it? She's adopted! What's my life like right now? Let me put it this way: It's not quite as good as what my pet falcon leaves on my shoulder!

I'm Maggot! I'm sullen, I'm morose, I'm intense! That's during my happy hour! If I ever had a happy hour! My hobbies: soaking in tubs, smoking like a chimney, lesbian affairs, promiscuous heterosexual flings and staring vacantly! I'm about as emotional as an air duct! I have never smiled or laughed in my life! Read this MAD parody and join me!

I'm Eli Crash, a nutty neighbor of the Paininthebums who spent most of my young life in their crazy house! Which is why I'm as freaky as they are! Kind of like "behind innocuous lines"! In this film I have fourteen minutes of fame! I'd tell you about the fifteenth minute, but I don't remember it! I was too stoned! Oh, I'm also in love with Maggot!

I'm Raleigh St. Droopy, an older dude married to Maggot! I could be the only one in this opening splash NOT having sex with her! I'm a world-weary neurologist! A neurologist is someone who examines people's brains to explore why they do destructive things and screw up their lives! Like, say, a movie star taking a role with only four or five lame lines of dialogue in it! Saturday Night Live, it's not!

I'm Henry Studman! I'm the accountant and business manager for the Paininthebum family! I'm solid, I'm dependable, I'm decent, I'm polite! I'm not suicidal or depressed! I don't know what the hell I'm doing in this film! I'm too old for this sh*t!

Chapter One

Ethelfuel Paininthebum raised her three children as prodigies. Each child exhibited a unique talent bordering on genius.

Spaz was a boy wonder financial whiz! A genius in real estate and the stock market!

I'm giving a buy signal on Microsoft, also a strong buy on Intel, and pick up a thing called AOL! I know, it's the 1970s and these companies haven't been created yet, but trust me, I'm decades ahead of my time! Oops, gotta go! Emergency! Not a stock crash! I've got a huge zit! I'm 14! Oh, by the way, when a thing called Enron goes public...dump it!

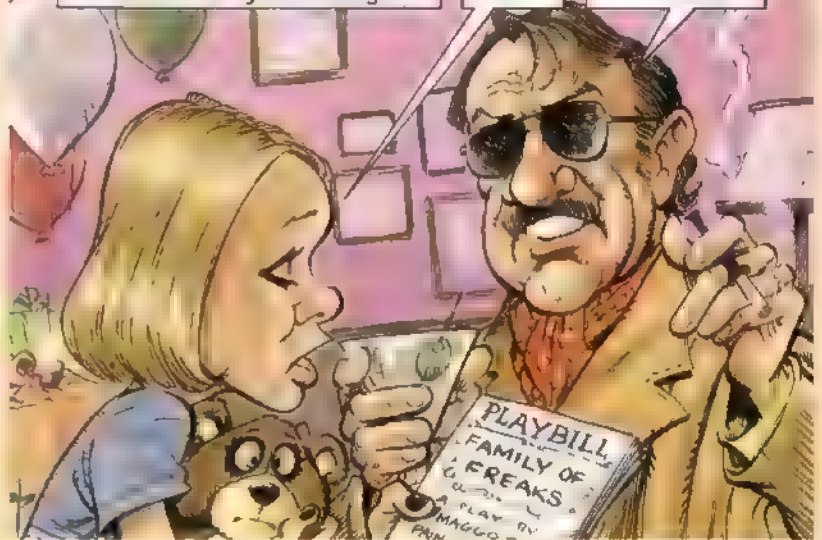


Maggot was a successful playwright! She won a \$50,000 grant at age 15! Her first play was performed when she was in the third grade! Rave reviews with one noticeable exception!

It was dreck! You call that a Second Act ending? There was no character arc for the tooth fairy! And the plot twist with the dancing tulips in Act Three...what the hell were you thinking?

But Daddy, I'm only seven!

Then I'll explain it in terms you can understand! Your play was cacal!



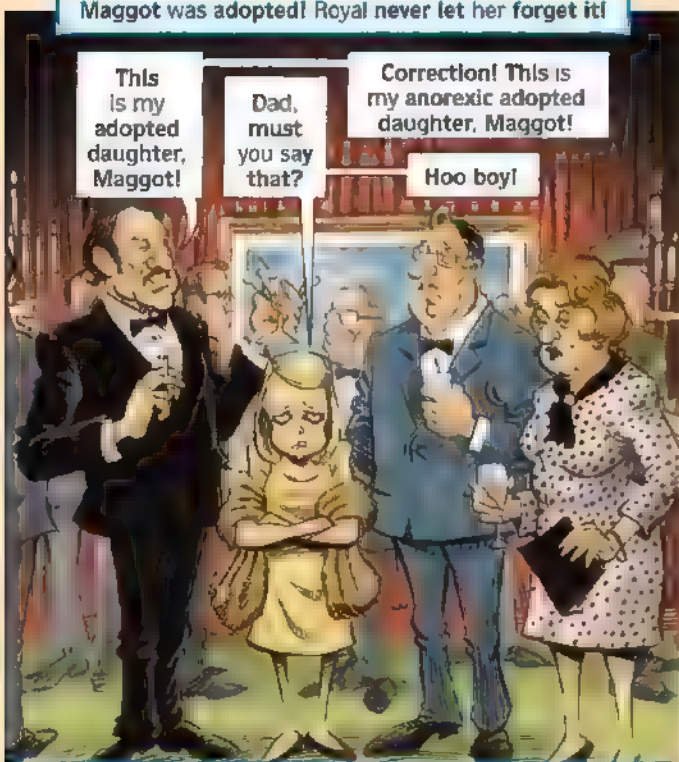
Maggot was adopted! Royal never let her forget it!

This is my adopted daughter, Maggot!

Dad, must you say that?

Correction! This is my anorexic adopted daughter, Maggot!

Hoo boy!



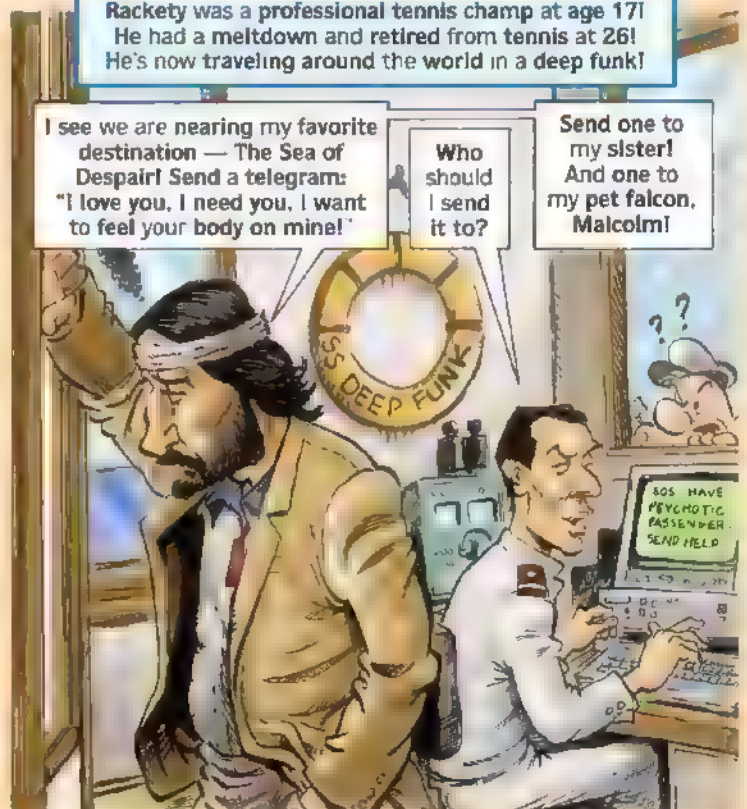
The Paininthebum children are now all grown up! Which is unfortunate! The three geniuses turned out to be nut jobs!

Rackety was a professional tennis champ at age 17! He had a meltdown and retired from tennis at 26! He's now traveling around the world in a deep funk!

I see we are nearing my favorite destination — The Sea of Despair! Send a telegram: "I love you, I need you, I want to feel your body on mine!"

Who should I send it to?

Send one to my sister! And one to my pet falcon, Malcolm!

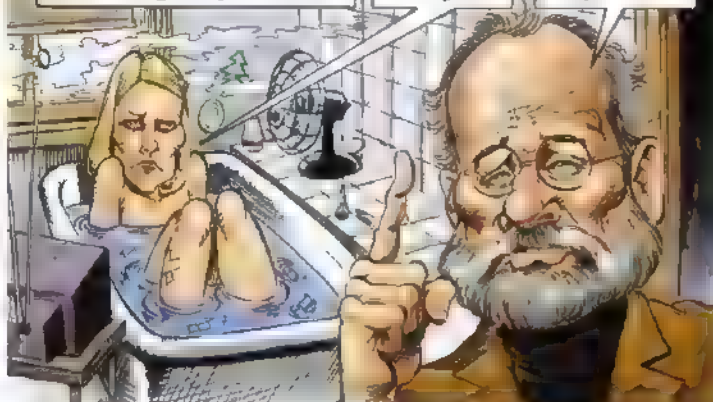


While Rackety was sailing the seven seas, his sister, Maggot, was also in deep water! Tepid tub water!

Maggot, this is freaky behavior! Every day you soak in the tub for hours! Each day is a duplicate of the day before! Don't you get tired of doing the exact same thing every 24 hours?

It worked for you in Groundhog Day!

In Groundhog Day I was funny! In this film you're just wet and depressed!



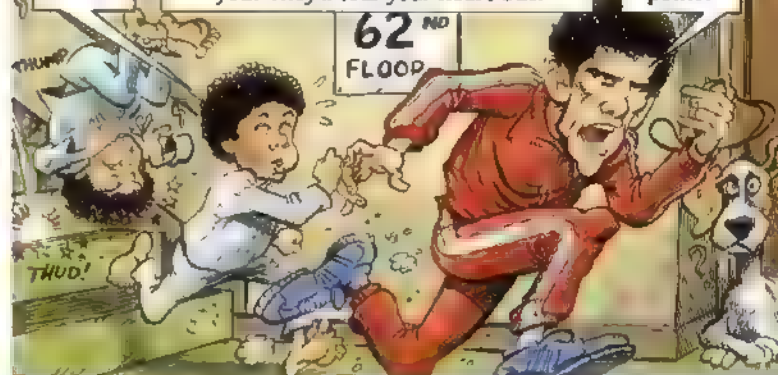
Spaz was paranoid! Overly concerned with safety! He ran late night drills with his two boys, Sullen and Anxious!

Why must we practice fire drills at three a.m.?

Because, Sullen, it's a dangerous world out there! There's fire, there's gas leaks, there's plague! And if natural forces don't destroy you, then family certainly will, with betrayal, deceit and angst! Family will crush the life out of you! They'll tear your heart out!

But Dad, YOU'RE family!

So what's your point?



The only one doing well was their neighbor, Wally Crash, the pothead novelist, who achieved sudden literary celebrity!

"And then Custer said to his guide, 'Hey, man, is that Montana or a tumbling tumbleweed?'"

Wow, is he ripped!

The guy's a phony! Has he ever been west of 8th Avenue?

I hear he once moseyed over to Riverside Drive and 145th Street!

He's a one-book wonder! The question is: Does he have another novel in him?

With his talent, I don't think he has a leaflet in him!



Ethelfuel, marry me! I can bring stability into your life!

After my first husband, Carrot Top would bring stability into my life!

Be careful turning the TV knob with your toe! You can electrocute yourself!

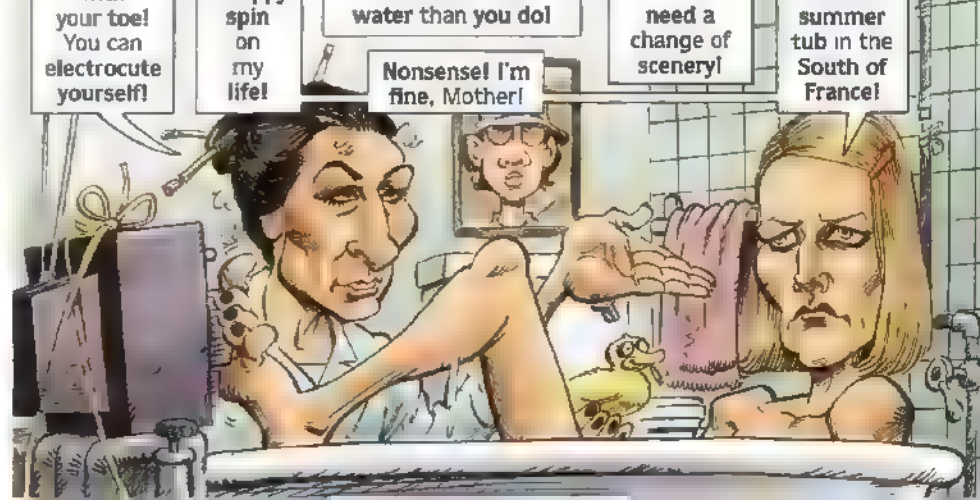
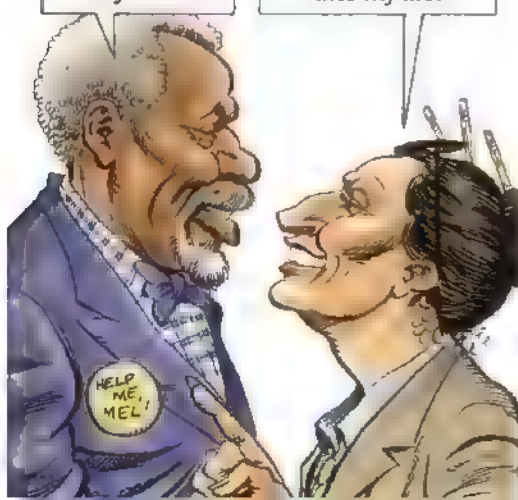
Stop putting a happy spin on my life!

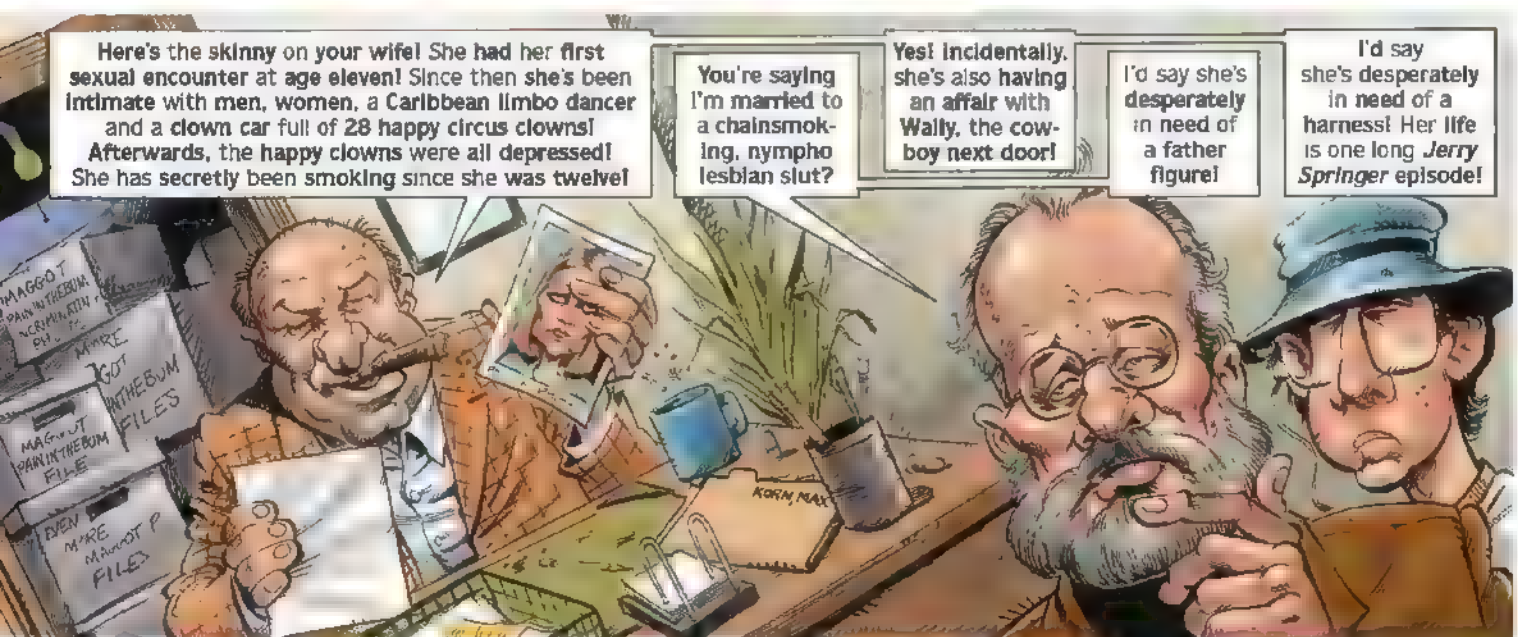
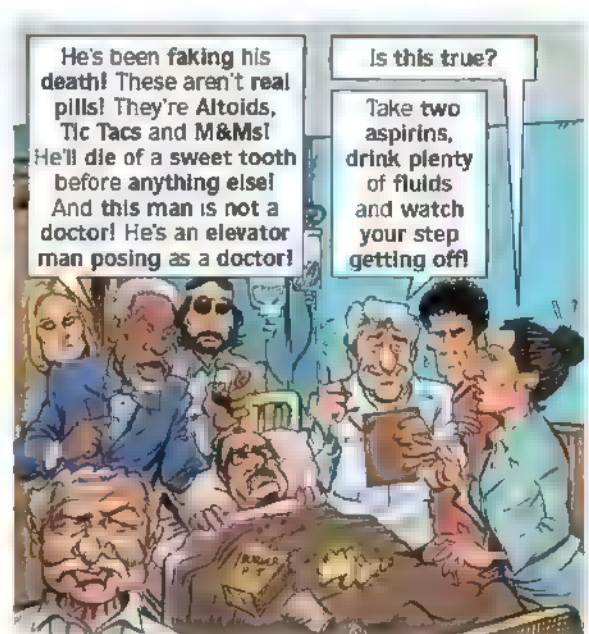
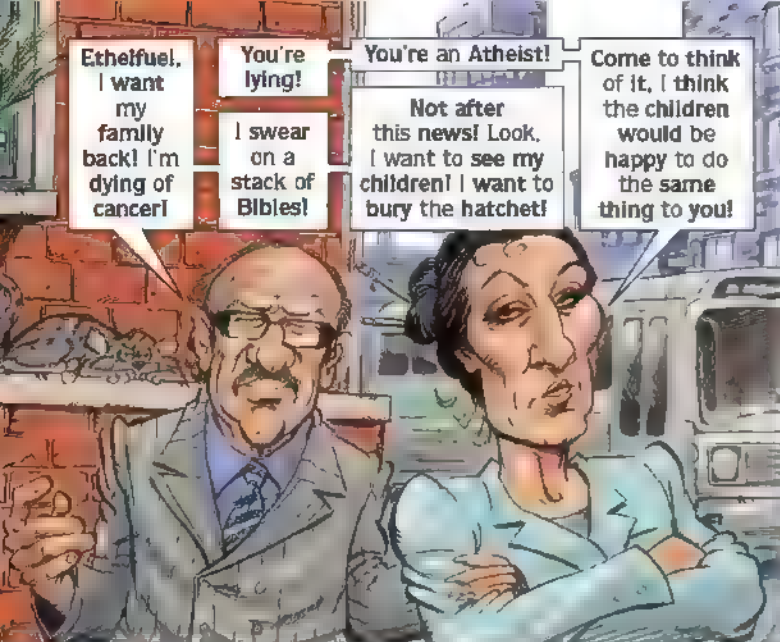
Maggot, we're worried about you! Orca the Killer Whale spends less time in the water than you do!

Nonsense! I'm fine, Mother!

We're rich! We can get you help! You need a change of scenery!

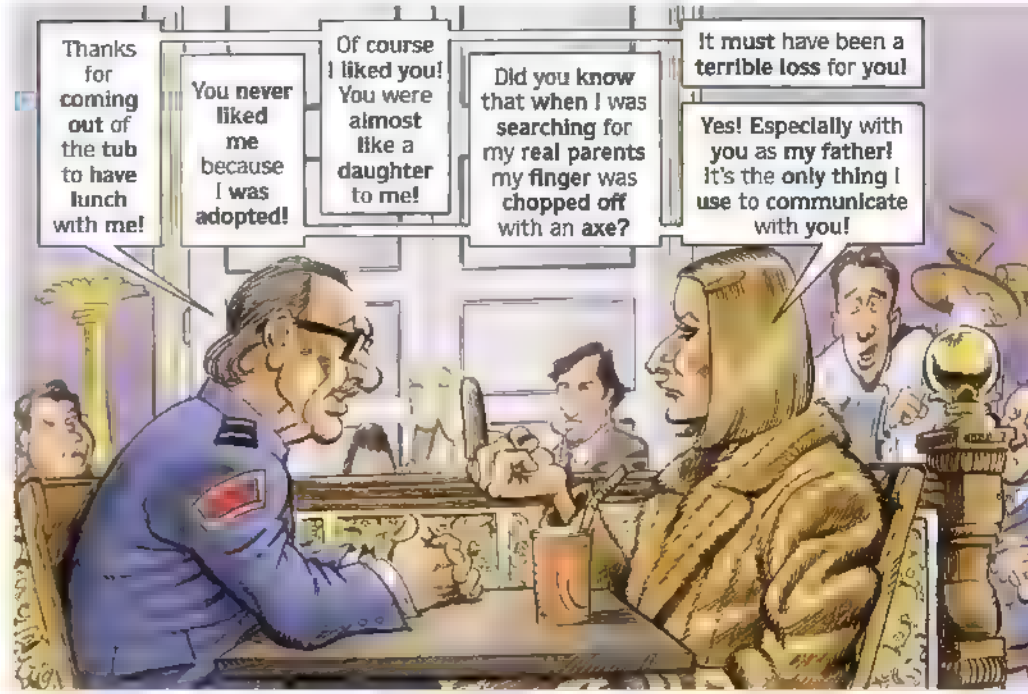
Okay! Perhaps you can rent me a summer tub in the South of France!





Rackety tried to put the past behind him and move on with his life, but realized he didn't have a life!

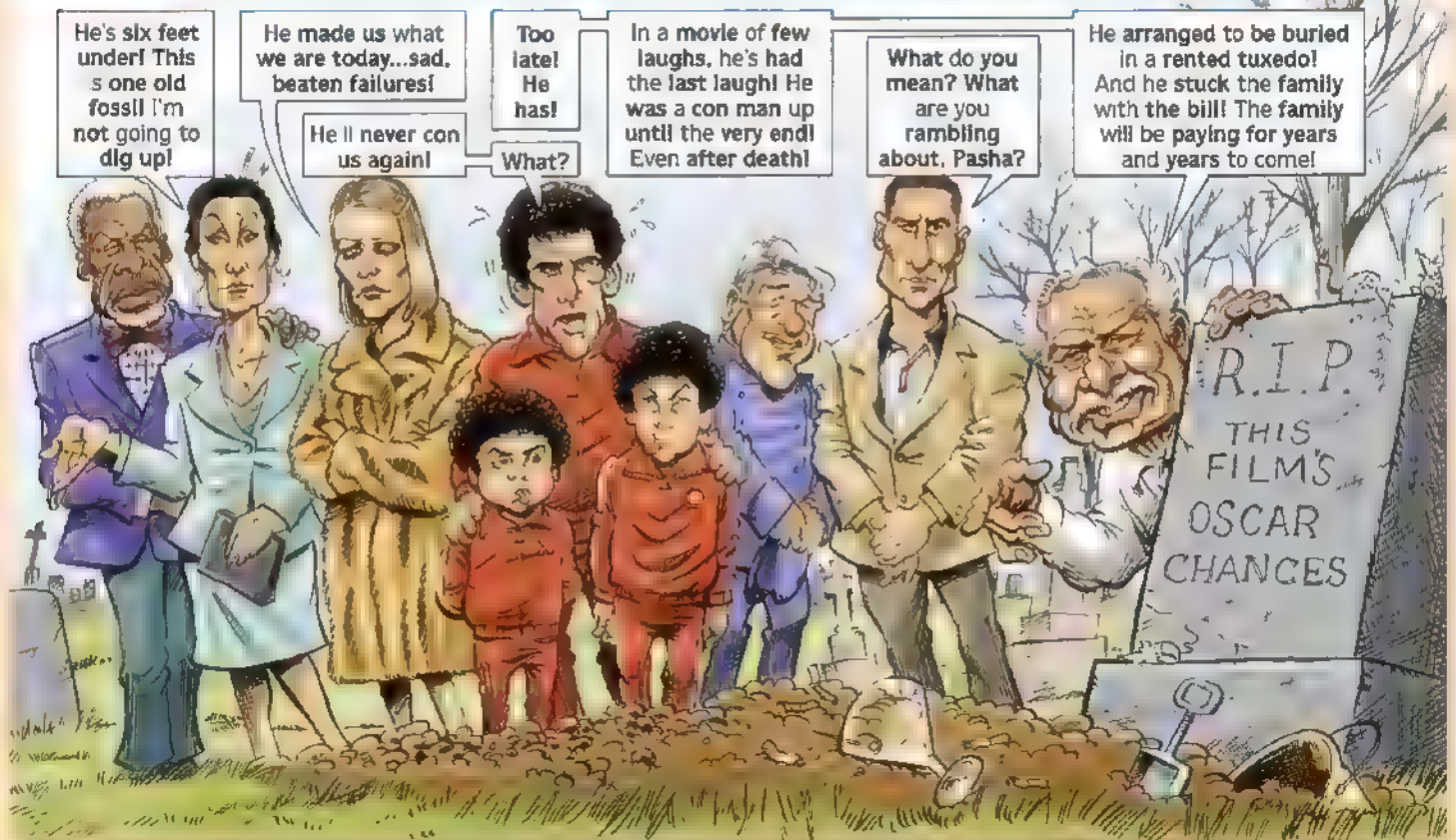
I failed at tennis, I failed at love, I failed at life! My father abandoned me! My falcon flew away from me! My sister has given up having sex with me for someone out of the family! How sick is that? I have no reason to live anymore! Oops, damn it! I cut my fingernail instead of my wrist! I just failed at suicide!



Final Chapter

At Ethelfuel and Henry Studman's wedding, Eli crashed his car in a drugged-out stupor. The bad news is, the dog was killed. The worse news is, everyone else in this dysfunctional family lived! For awhile, at least...

Royal died at age 67! He was a con man up until the very end of his life! And beyond...!

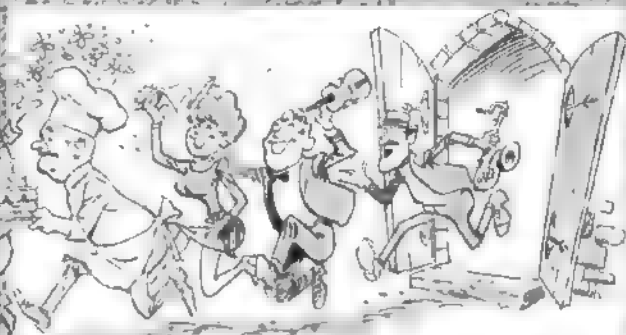




See Dick.
See Jane.
See Dick and Jane.
See Jane run.
See Dick run.
See Dick run after Jane.
Run, Dick, run.
But be careful.
Because if Jane is caught
You might find yourself reading...

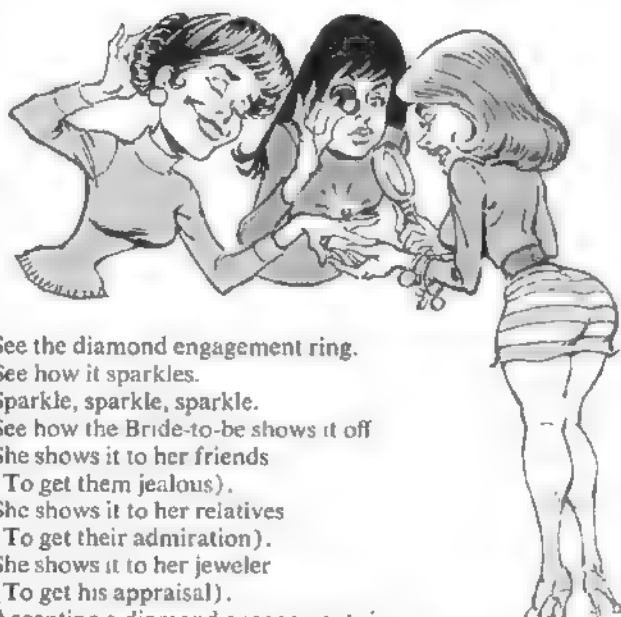


THE MAD Getting Married PRIMER



WRITER DICK DEBARTOLO ARTIST JACK RICKARD

Lesson 1. *The Engagement Ring*



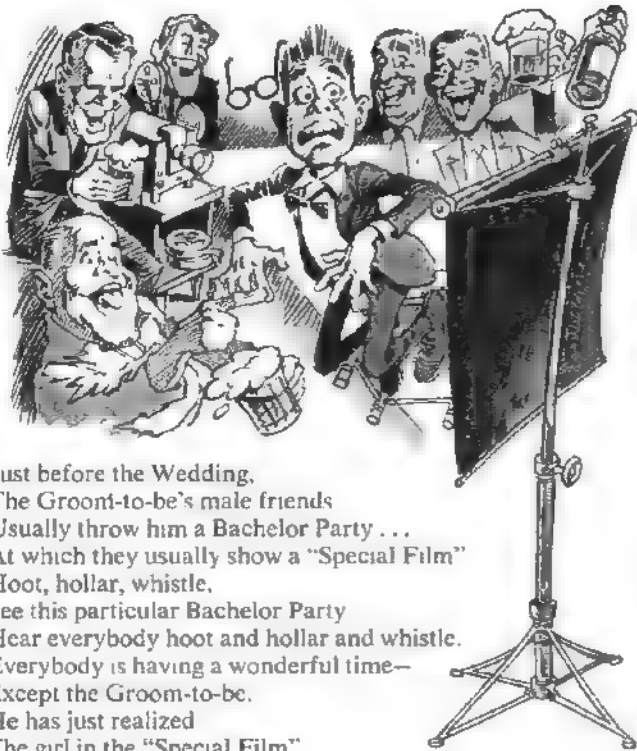
See the diamond engagement ring.
See how it sparkles.
Sparkle, sparkle, sparkle.
See how the Bride-to-be shows it off
She shows it to her friends
(To get them jealous).
She shows it to her relatives
(To get their admiration).
She shows it to her jeweler
(To get his appraisal).
Accepting a diamond engagement ring
Usually depends upon the approval of all three.
A diamond ring symbolizes a permanent commitment
Between the Groom-to-be and the Bride-to-be.
A diamond ring also symbolizes a permanent commitment
Between the Groom-to-be and the Finance Company.

Lesson 2. *The Wedding Invitations*



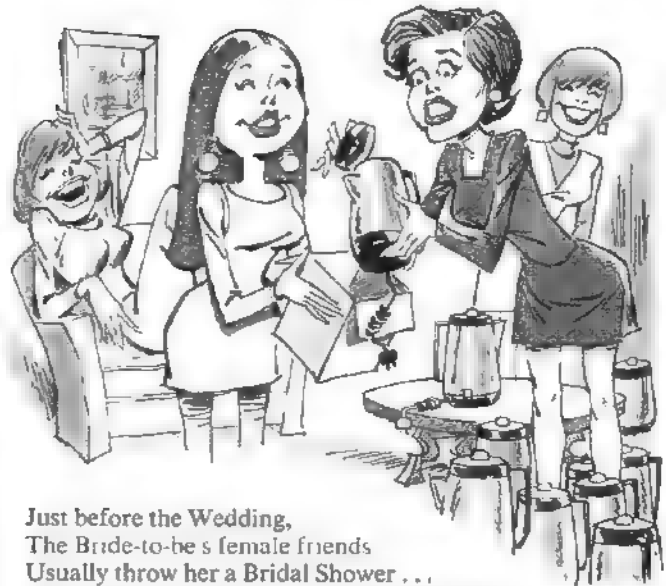
See the Wedding Invitations.
They are black and white
And cost much green.
Some clearly say:
"We request your presence at the Church..."
Others clearly say:
"We request your presence at the Reception..."
They all clearly imply:
"We request your presents..."
Presents, presents, presents.

Lesson 3. The Bachelor Party



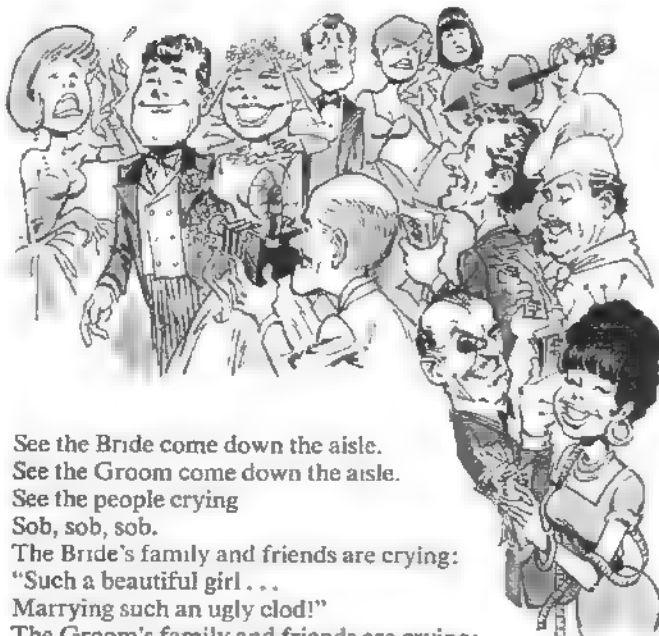
Just before the Wedding,
The Groom-to-be's male friends
Usually throw him a Bachelor Party ...
At which they usually show a "Special Film"
Hoot, hollar, whistle,
See this particular Bachelor Party
Hear everybody hoot and hollar and whistle.
Everybody is having a wonderful time—
Except the Groom-to-be.
He has just realized
The girl in the "Special Film"
Is his Bride-to-be.

Lesson 4. The Bridal Shower



Just before the Wedding,
The Bride-to-be's female friends
Usually throw her a Bridal Shower ...
At which they usually give her "Useful Items".
Like irons, and hair-dryers, and broilers.
Why are these items "useful" ...
When the new Bride will be sending her laundry out,
And going to a beauty parlor,
And eating in restaurants every night?
These items will be useful as gifts
At future Bridal Showers

Lesson 5. The Well-Wishers



See the Bride come down the aisle.
See the Groom come down the aisle.
See the people crying
Sob, sob, sob.
The Bride's family and friends are crying:
"Such a beautiful girl ...
Marrying such an ugly clod!"
The Groom's family and friends are crying:
"Such a handsome man ...
Marrying such an ugly witch!"
Some people are so unhappy at weddings.
Then there are people who are *extremely* happy at weddings:
The Caterer, the Minister, the Florist, the Printer, the Jeweler,
The Dressmaker, the Orchestra, the Photographer, etc. etc.

Lesson 6. The Wedding Ceremony



See the Minister conducting the Wedding Ceremony.
He says:
"Do you take this man to be your lawfully wedded husband?"
The Bride answers:
"I do."
He asks:
"Do you take this woman to be your lawfully wedded wife?"
The Groom answers:
"I do."
This is the last time the Bride and Groom will
agree on anything.
The Minister asks if there are any reasons
Why these two should not be joined in Holy Matrimony.
Too bad the question isn't asked a *year* from now.
There'll be *plenty* of reasons.

Lesson 7. The Best Man



See the Best Man.

He and the Groom were best friends
They bowled together, and golfed together,
And drank together, and played cards together.
Today is the last time they will ever see each other.
But there will still be bowling, and golfing,
And drinking, and playing cards.
Except that the Groom will be working
While the Bride will be doing them.

Lesson 8. The Bouquet



See the Bride throw her Bouquet.

See all the Bridesmaids run.

Run, run, run

See the woman in front catch the Bouquet.

She couldn't get out of the way in time

According to tradition, the *next* one to marry

Will be the Bride's High School Teacher:

Sister Maria Theresa.

Lesson 9. The Wedding Reception



See the Wedding Reception.

Everyone is dancing and drinking and eating like crazy.

You have to dance and drink and eat an awful lot

To cover the cost of a \$50.00 wedding gift.

See the Bride eating a piece of Wedding Cake.

This is her 17th piece.

She has finally gained a husband.

And lost a diet

Lesson 10. The Getaway



See the Wedding Couple dancing with friends

And laughing with relatives,

And having a wonderful time at the Reception.

In the old days, the Bride and Groom

Would be anxious to make their Getaway,

So they could rush to a Honeymoon Retreat.

Rush, rush, rush.

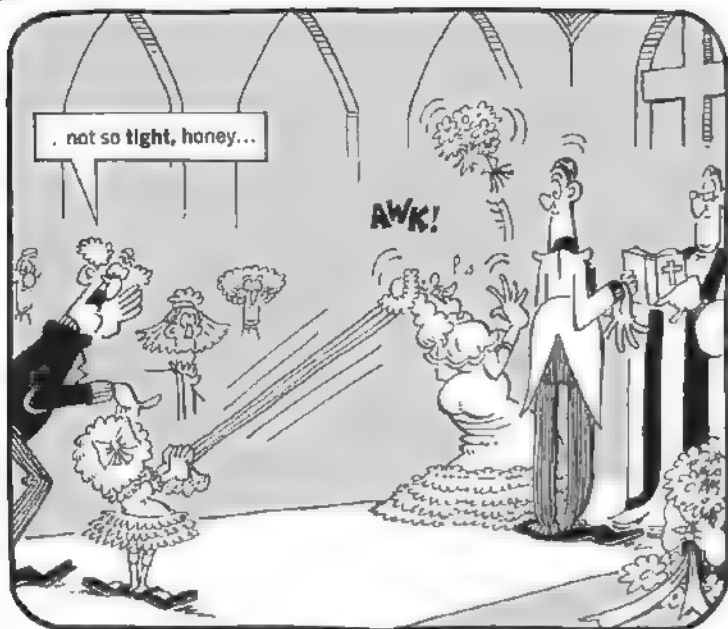
Nowadays, the Bride and Groom

Are usually the last to leave the Reception.

They're not *that* anxious to rush to a Honeymoon Retreat

When they've been living together for the past two years.

Blush, blush, blush.

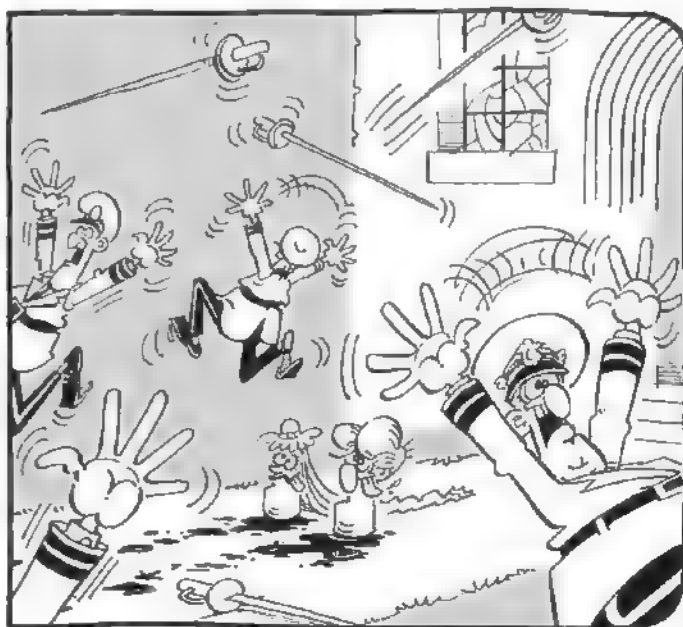


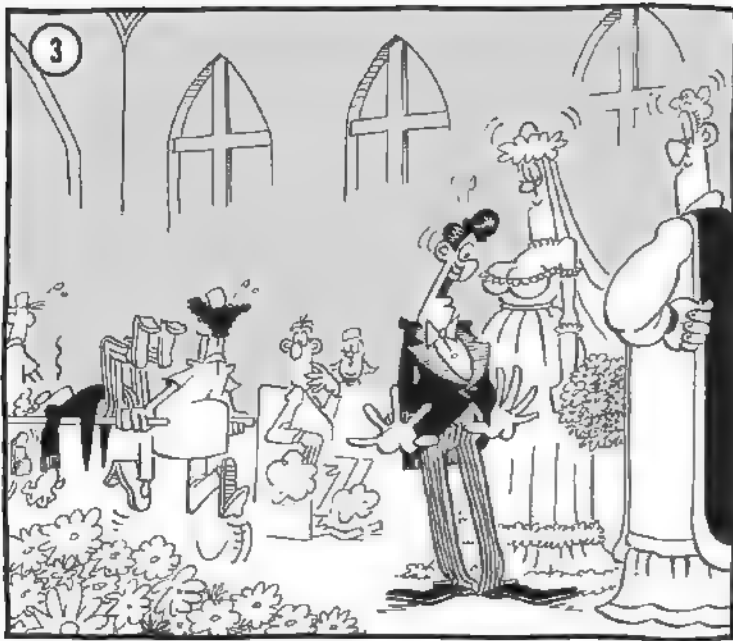
MAD LOOKS AT WEDDINGS



WRITER DUCK EDWING

ARTIST DON MARTIN





THE GAME OF STRIFE DEPT.

WRITER DESMOND DEVLIN AD BY TOM RICHMOND

From the makers of HOUSE TRAP, HUNGRY HUNGRY

GELEPHANT

THE GAME FOR FAMILIES WHO NEED

THE
MB
KEY to
EMOTIONAL
WELL-BEING

OBSCESS
ON
AGE 8,
AGE 8,
AGE 8...

OBJECT:
Try to avoid
returning to
HOME at
any cost.

MELTDOWN
BADLY
COMPANY
MADE IN U.S.A

SELF-WORTH
JUST ISN'T IN
THE CARDS
FOR YOU!



COMMUNICATI

COMMUNICATI
ACCUSATION



ACCUSATION



EMASCULATION



EMASCULATION

MEDICATION



MEDICATION

FOR ATTENTION, VITRIOL PURSUIT, and NEVER SORRY!

in The ROOM

ED THICK SKIN!



in The ROOM

It's the hurtful game that's filled with cruel surprises! An elephant never forgets, just like a child never forgets that it wasn't wanted!

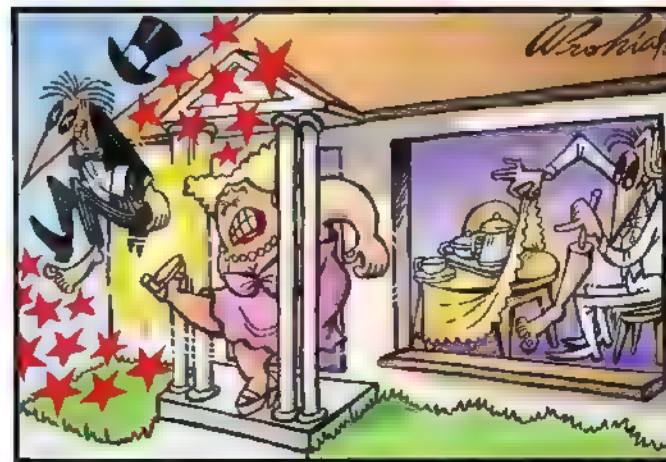
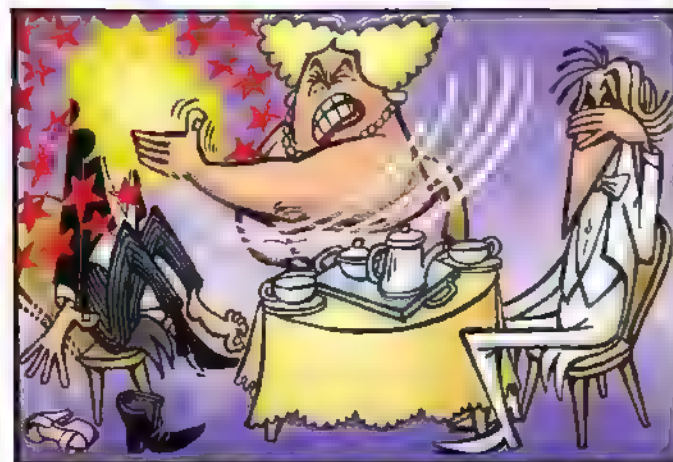
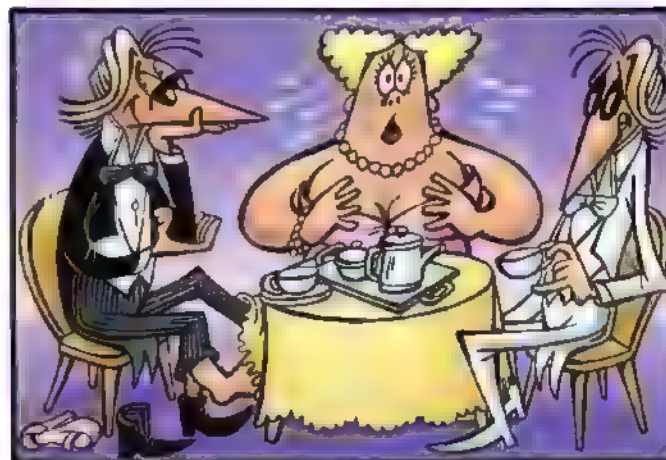
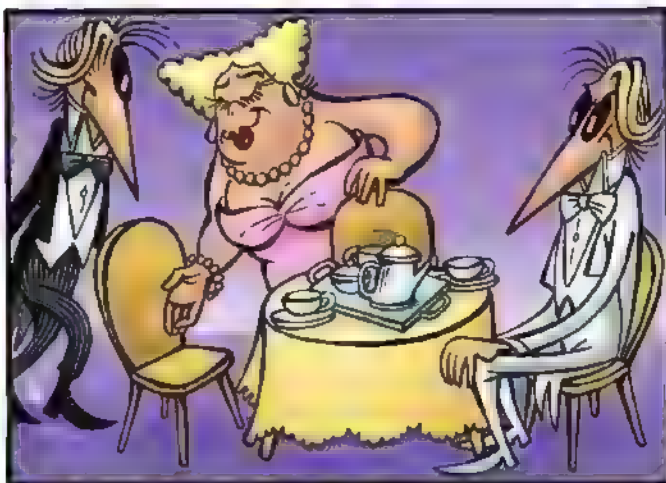
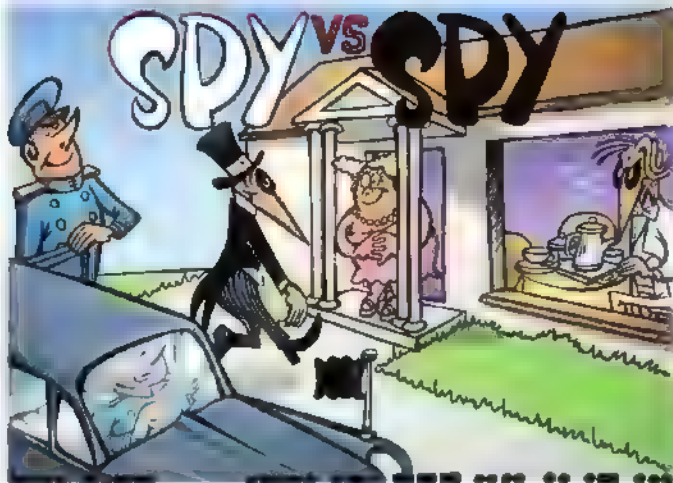
Move forward! Move backward! Does it matter?
You're just going round and round!

ELEPHANT in The ROOM

is an endless loop with no finish line! Even if you sever ties with your family, they'll be trapped in your head game forever. It never comes out different!



MELTDOWN
BADLY
COMPANY

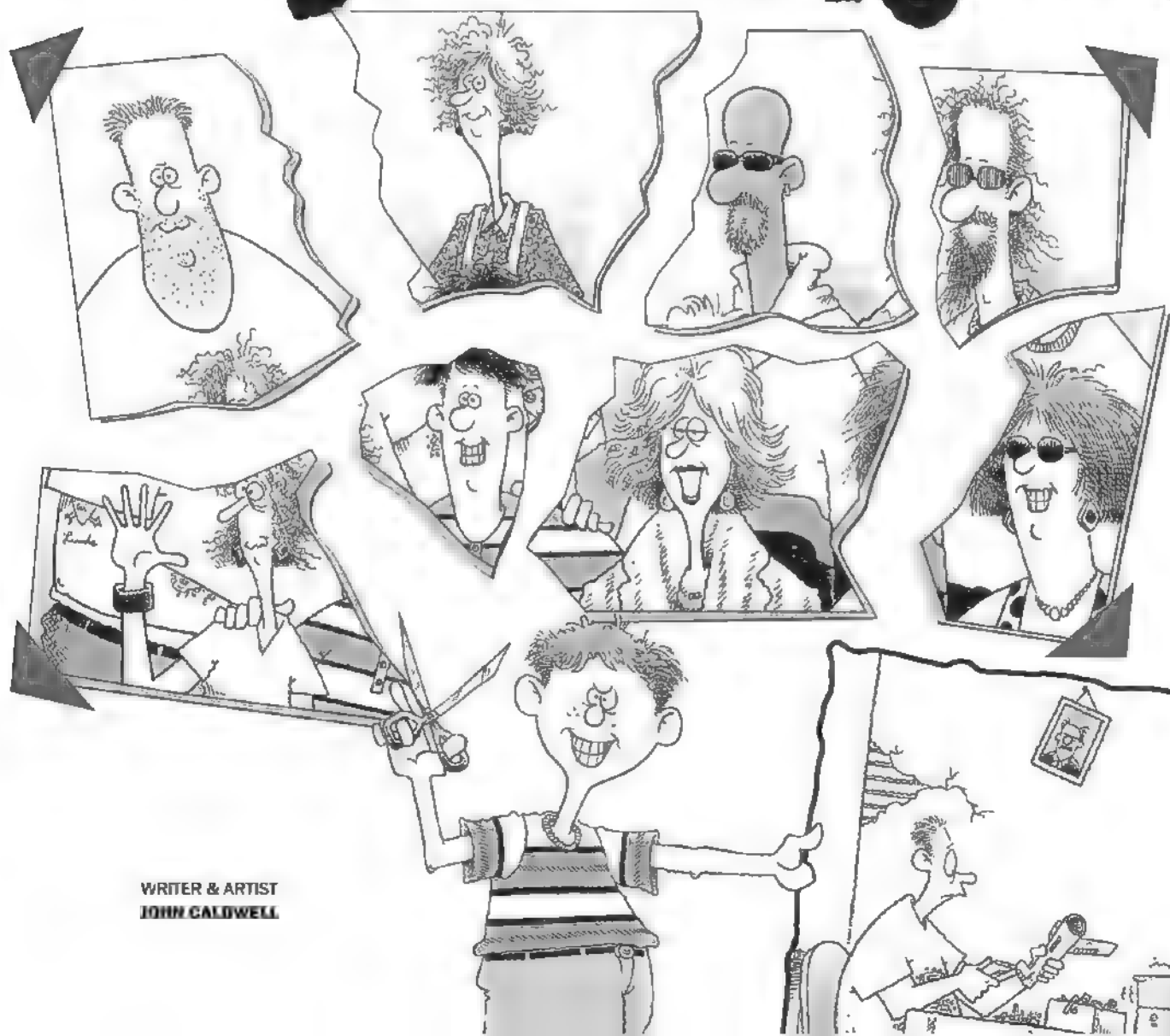




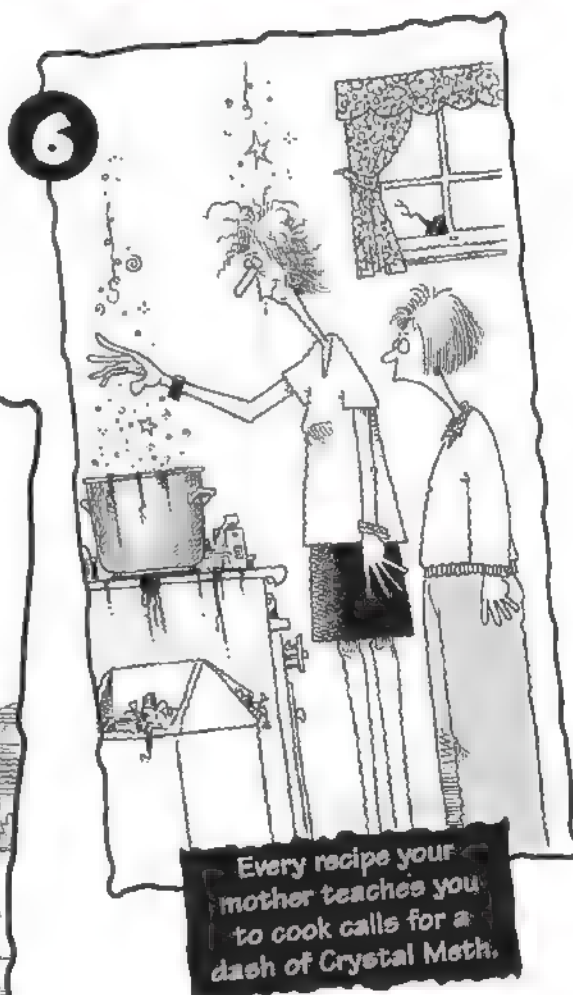
So, you think you're growing up in a dysfunctional family, huh? Okay, so maybe your father, who's boffing his barely-twenty-year-old secretary, doesn't speak to your mother, who, as a rule, downs five cans of Molson Ice before driving you to school! And your sister, who's dating the entire varsity football team and half of the hardware staff at Wal-Mart hates your guts ever since she caught you selling her underwear to your friends! So what? You still qualify as the Cleavers compared to anyone unfortunate enough to recognize...

10 WARNING SIGNS YOUR FAMILY IS BEYOND

DYSFUNCTIONAL



WRITER & ARTIST
JOHN CALDWELL



3



You catch yourself filling with
prison officials for conjugal
visits to your stepfather.

4



Your honor roll appearances go largely unnoticed
while your mother proudly crams the refrigerator
door with your brother's outstanding warrants.

7



The main sticking point
in your parents' pending
divorce case is over
custody of the bong.

9



LYLE
RULES!

The only subject you and your brother can agree
on is: "Who's your favorite Menendez brother?"

10



Take Your Daughter to Work Day finds
you rolling drunks and peddling crack.



So what if they provide their kids with fleeting pleasures, revolting repercussions, and catastrophic collateral damage. Quit your crying or *you'll get something to cry about* as you process...

The Good, Bad, and Ugly of Having a **DYSFUNCTIONAL** **DAD**

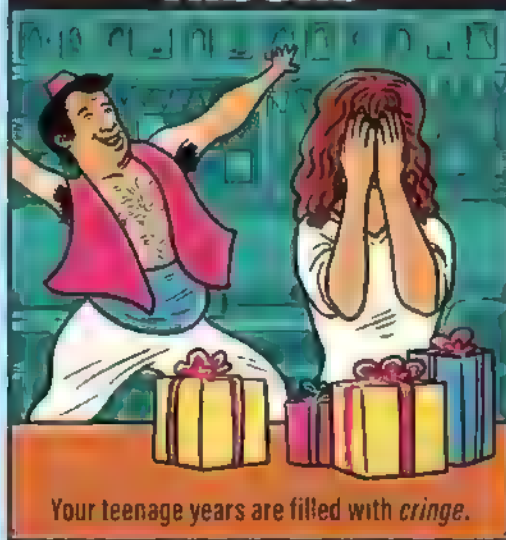
WRITER & ARTIST IVAN EHLERS

Peter Pan Dad

THE GOOD



THE BAD



Your teenage years are filled with *cringe*.

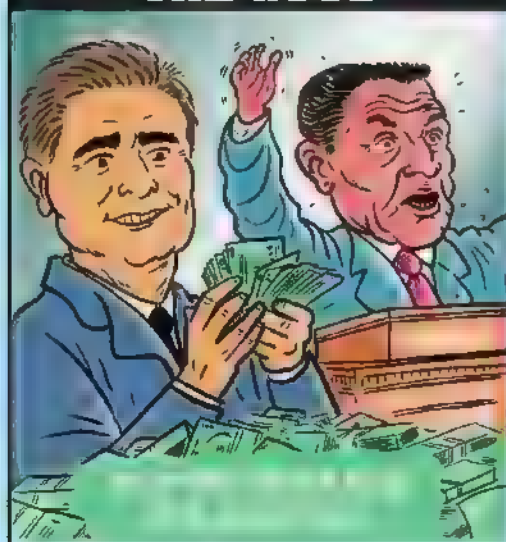
THE UGLY



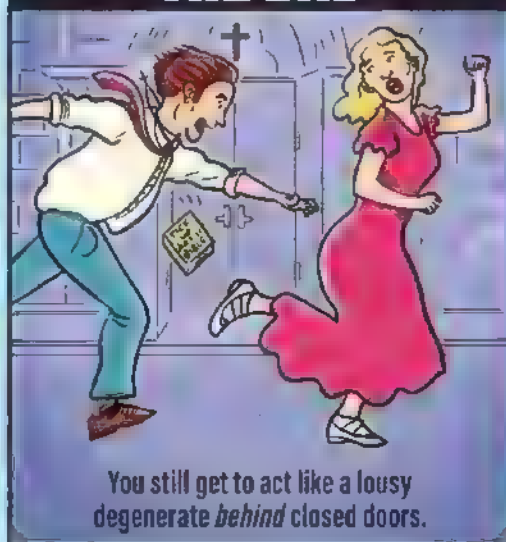
You eventually turn into a *Disney* adult.

Hyper-Religious Dad

THE GOOD



THE BAD



You still get to act like a lousy degenerate *behind* closed doors.

THE UGLY



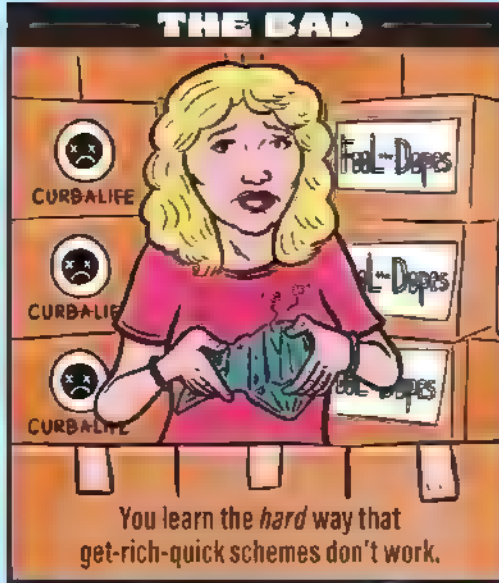
You get a front row seat as he tries to usher in the *End Times*.

Broke Dad

THE GOOD



THE BAD



You learn the *hard* way that get-rich-quick schemes don't work.

THE UGLY



You learn your credit score is ruined from loans he took out in your name.

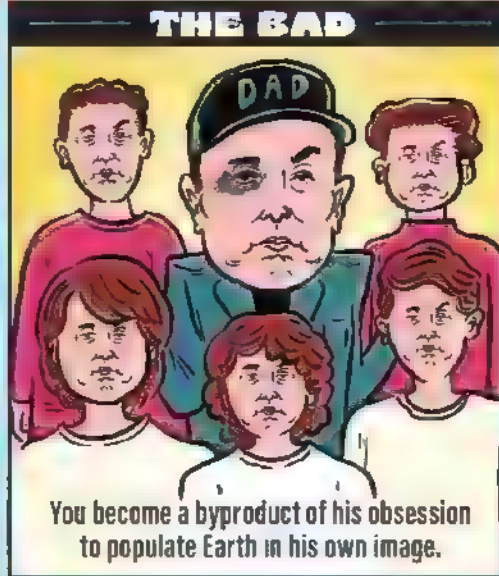
Malignant Narcissist Dad

THE GOOD



You become CEO of a huge company when he resigns in disgrace.

THE BAD



You become a byproduct of his obsession to populate Earth in his own image.

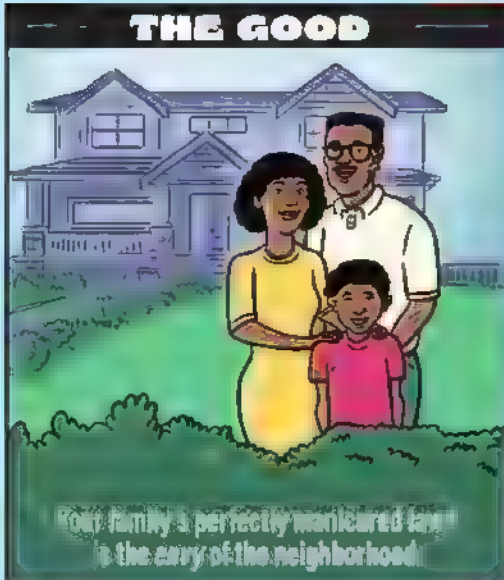
THE UGLY



You become President.

Perfectionist Dad

THE GOOD



Your family's perfectly manicured lawn is the envy of the neighborhood.

THE BAD

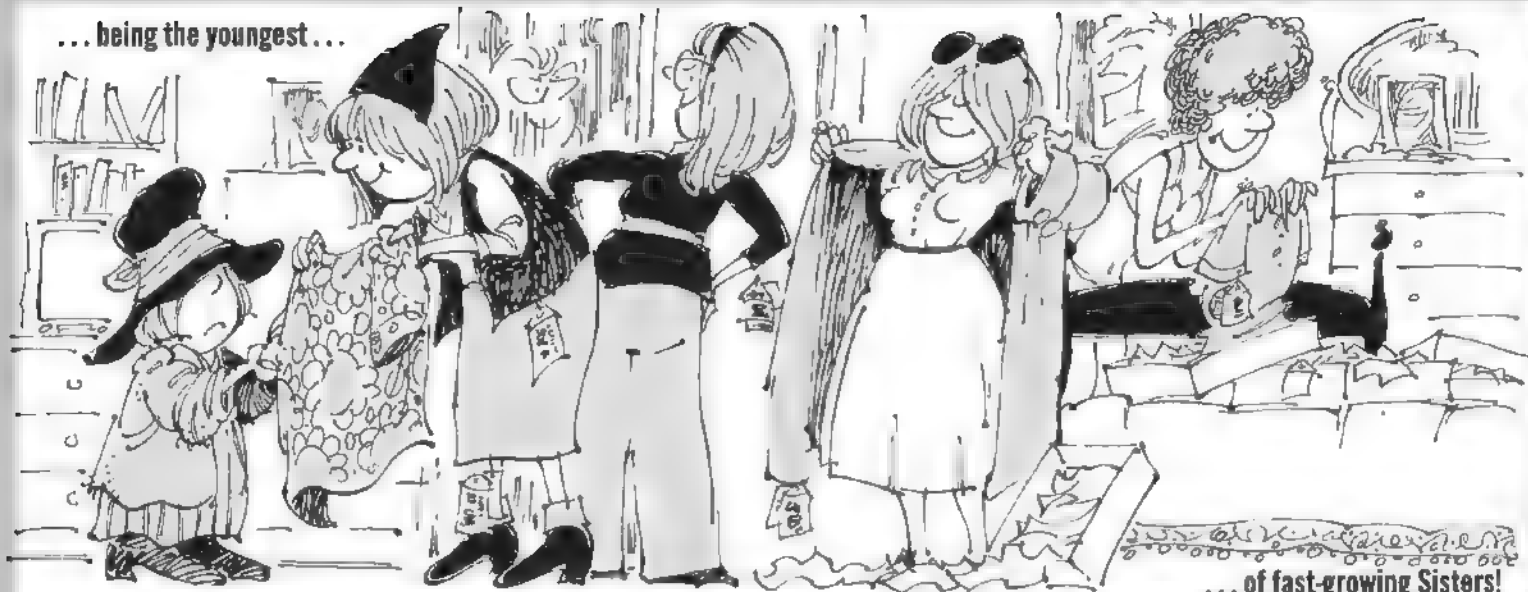


Keeping up the family tradition is practically a full-time job.

THE UGLY



... being the youngest ...



... of fast-growing Sisters!

... having a would-be Rock Star for a Brother ...



... while preparing for your Pre-Med Exams!



CHILD'S PLAGUE DEPT.

SIBL MIS IS

WRITER PAUL PETER PORGES

... having a 9:30 curfew ...



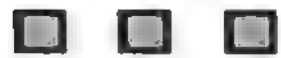
... while all the others get away with murder!

... having a jock Brother ...



... and the washing-machines busted!

LING ERY



ARTIST PAUL COKER

... being the only Brother ...



... of a beautiful Sister!

... having an over-weight Sister ...



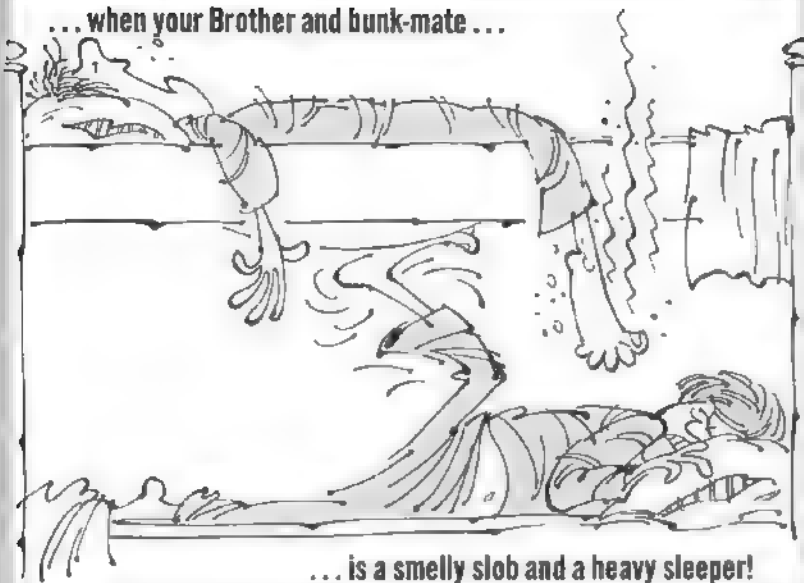
... who's trying to diet!

... being the big Brother ...



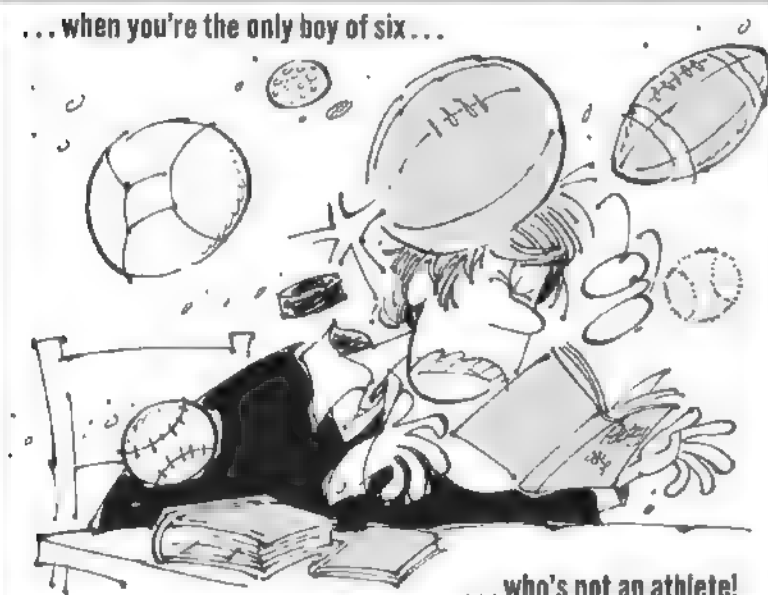
... of a wise-ass!

... when your Brother and bunk-mate ...



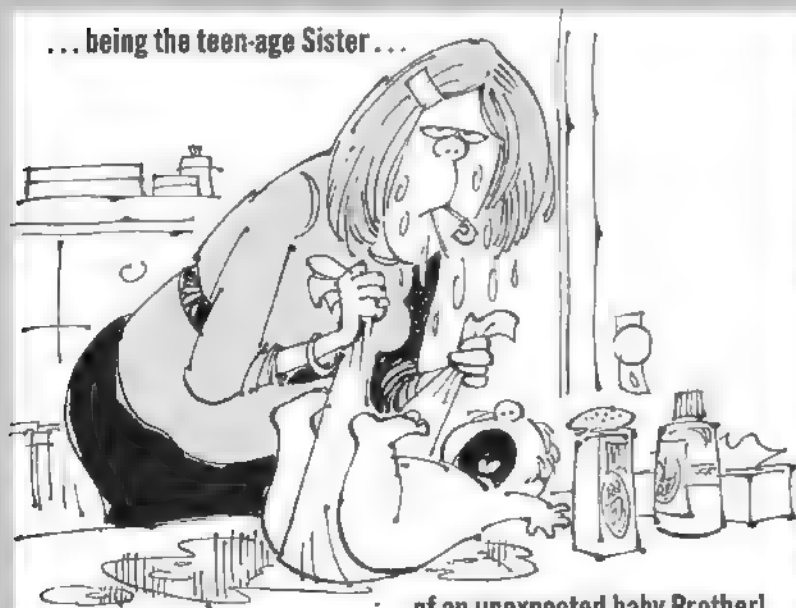
... is a smelly slob and a heavy sleeper!

... when you're the only boy of six ...



... who's not an athlete!

... being the teen-age Sister ...



... of an unexpected baby Brother!

... when your big Brother is a lousy dresser ...



... and you have to wear his hand-me-downs!

... having five older Sisters ...



... and only one bathroom!



Somehow those nutheads at Fox TV got the idea that dysfunctional equals funny. "Imagine how hilarious it will be," they said, "if we get dysfunctional parents and some dysfunctional kids and have them surround a whiny semi-normal kid who won't shut up. It will be comedy gold!" Gold? Hmmm. We think it's just nonstop dribblings from a...

MALCONTENT IN THE MUDDLE

WRITER DESMOND DEVLIN ARTIST TOM RICHMOND

In real life, when a kid starts talking to somebody who's invisible, they jack up his dosage of Ritalin! On Fox, they gave me my own show! My job is to keep the ratings cruising along, from Futurama to King of the Hill to The Simpsons, but it's going to be tough! The people on this show aren't nearly as realistic!

Over there screaming at my family is my mom. Mom! She's overbearing, brash, has poofy hair and a white-trash attitude! But don't get me wrong, she prays every day! Mostly, she prays that nobody will remember Peggy Bundy from *Married...with Children*!

There goes my dad. Dad! He provides us with something Important that our family would otherwise lack: a mother figure!

The only one in my family I look up to is my big brother, Frantici! Unfortunately, mom and dad sent him away to military school, so he sleeps in a room with 30 men! During hazing week, they stripped off his clothes, shaved off all his body hair and shoved stuff up his butt! My parents are hoping military school will make a man of him!

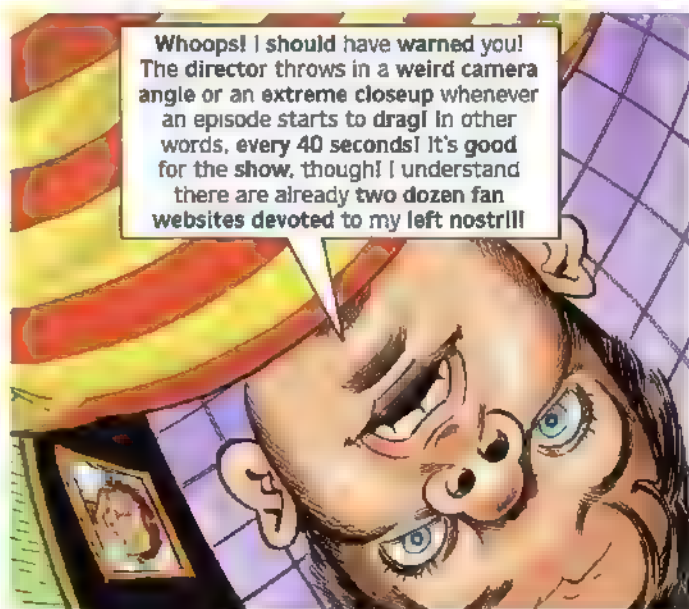
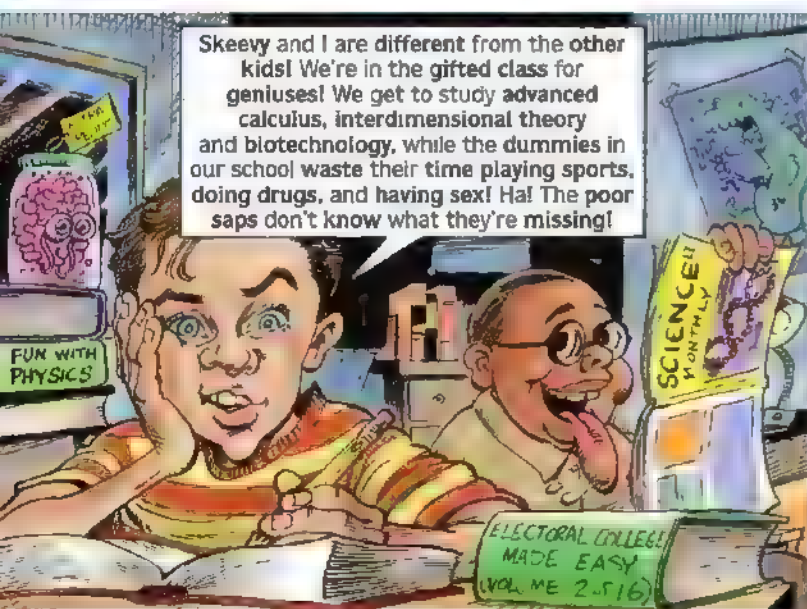
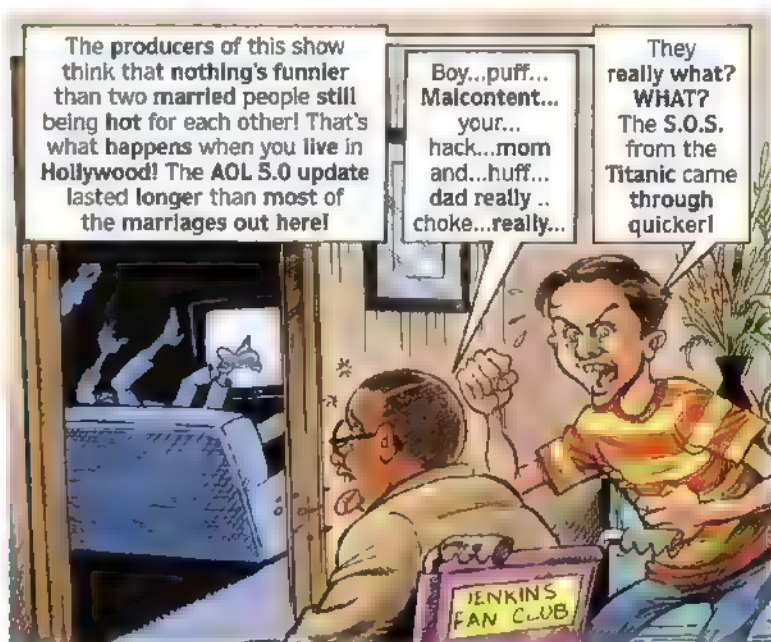
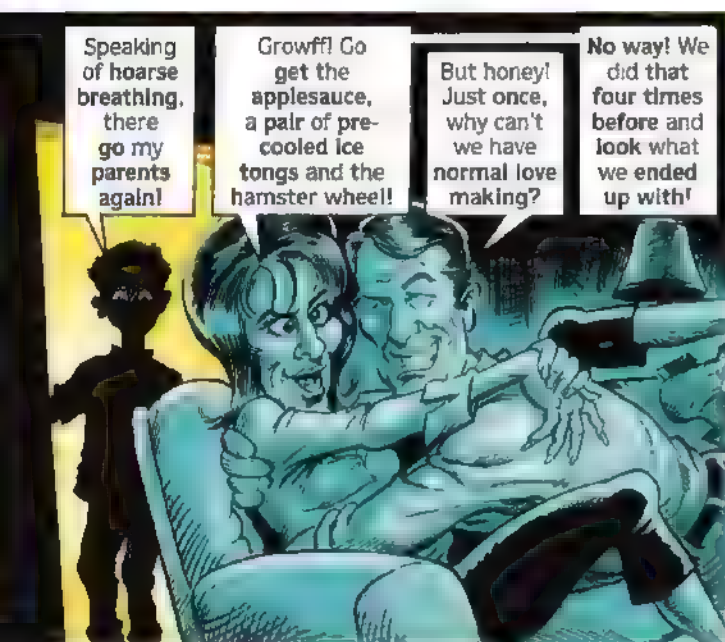
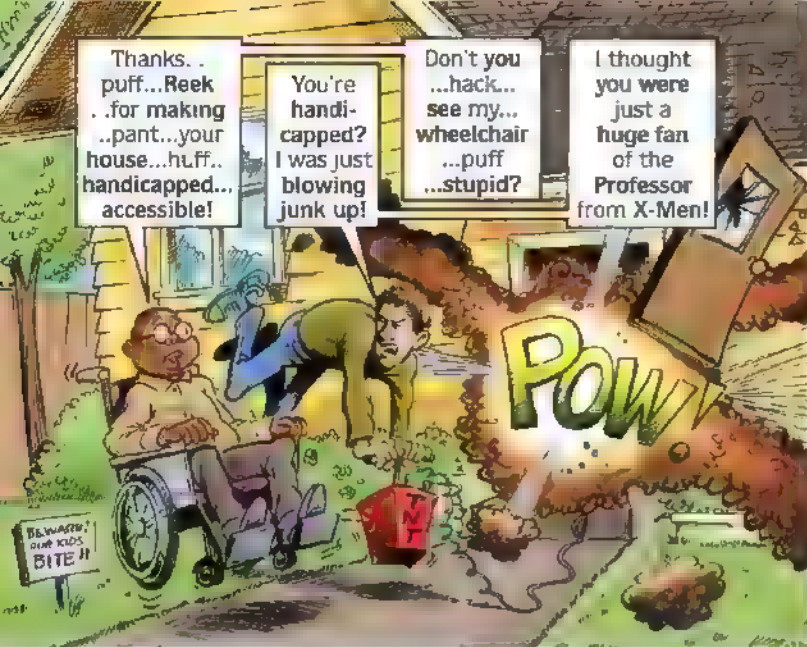
That's Gooley, the adorable little kid! He has trouble keeping up! You'll notice that we rarely feed him more than one sentence to say! Even then, it's a real struggle coaching Gooley to say the words as if he understands them! I'm not complaining, though! It's the same problem George W. Bush's handlers have to deal with every single day!

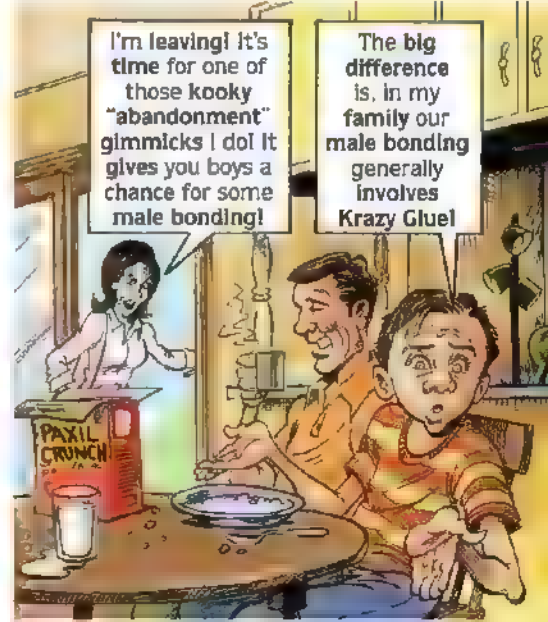
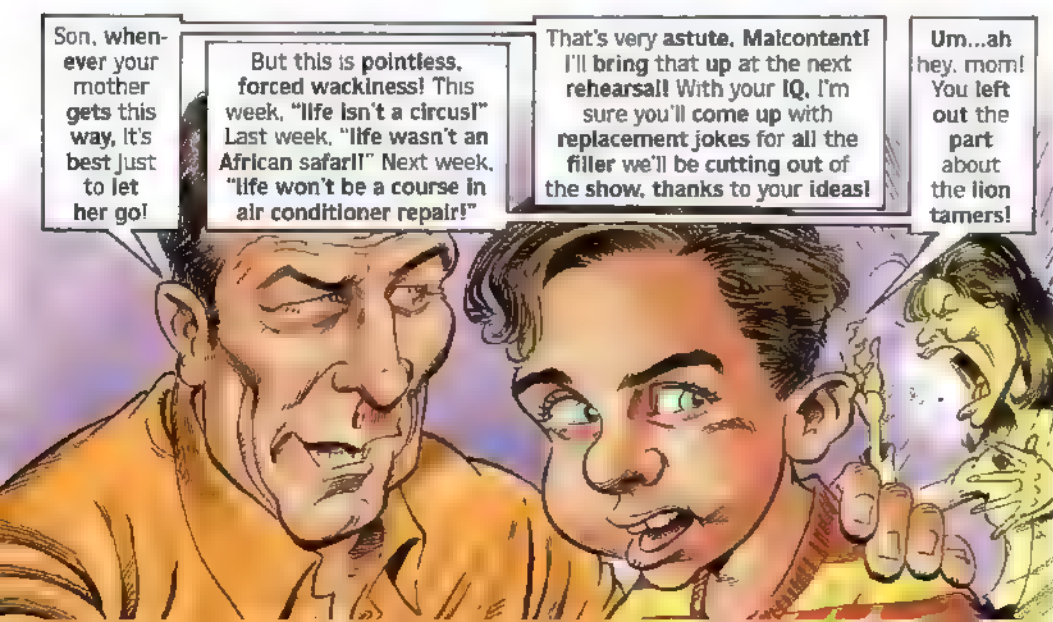
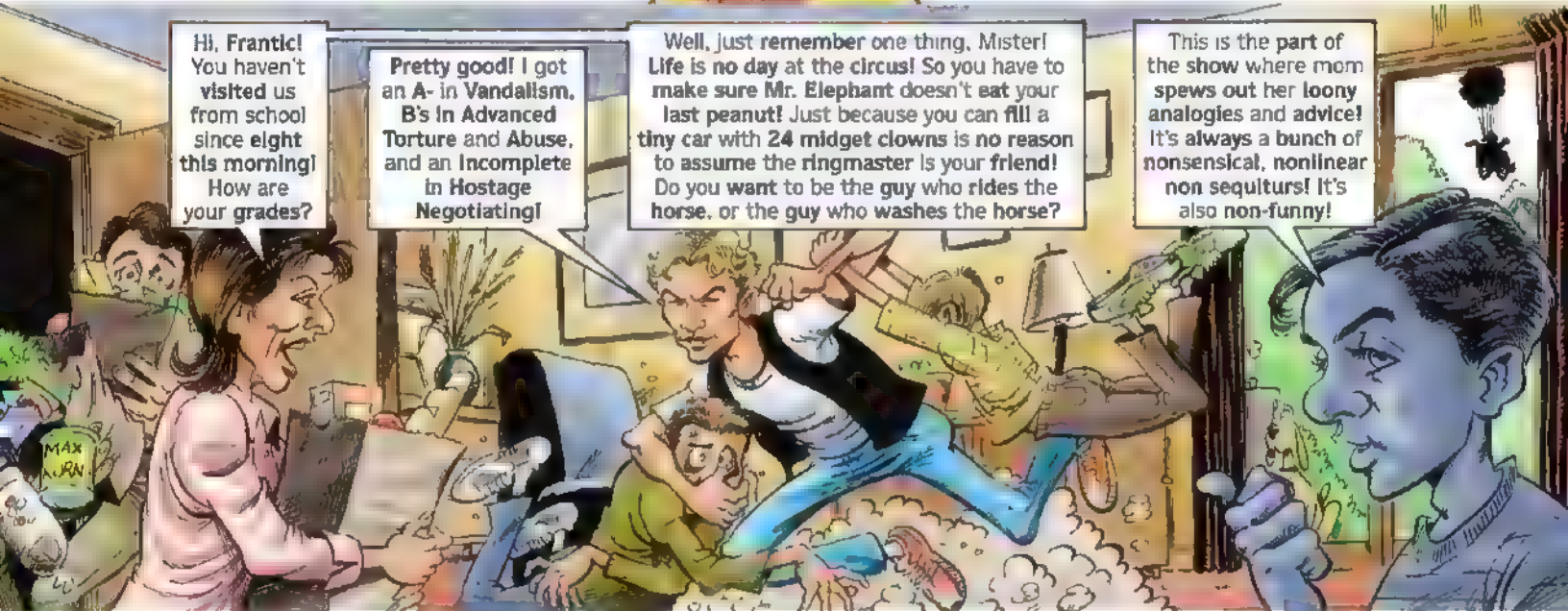
Reek is the #2 brother, if you know what I mean! He's not as smart as me! He's not as cute as Gooley! He's not as sociopathic as Frantici! He's nothing but a twisted second-place loser! If those people who make TV shows about bitter former child actors have any foresight, they'll sign Reek to an exclusive contract today!

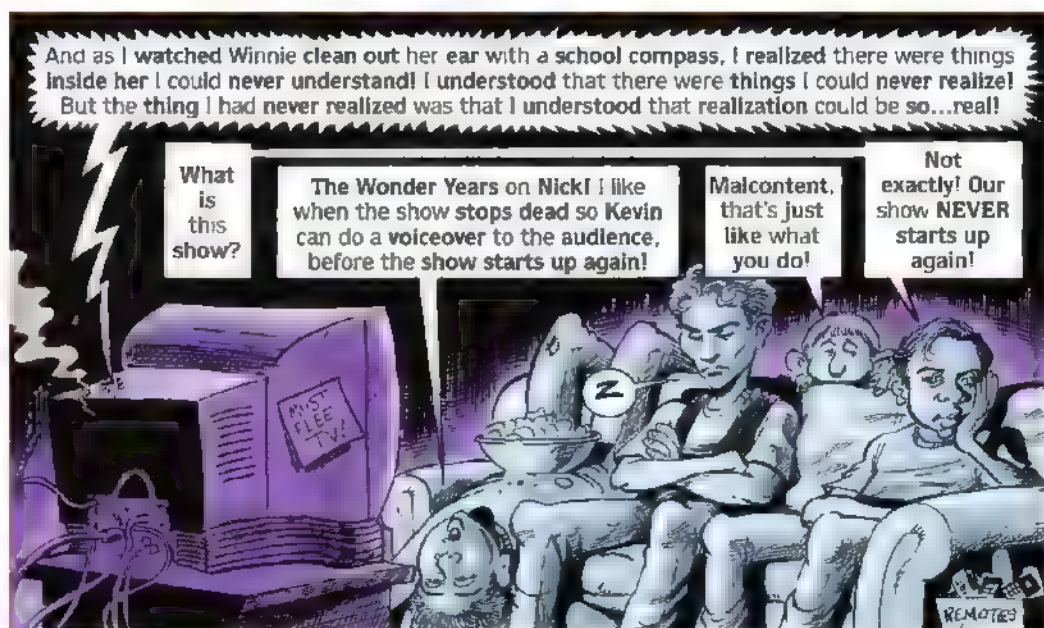
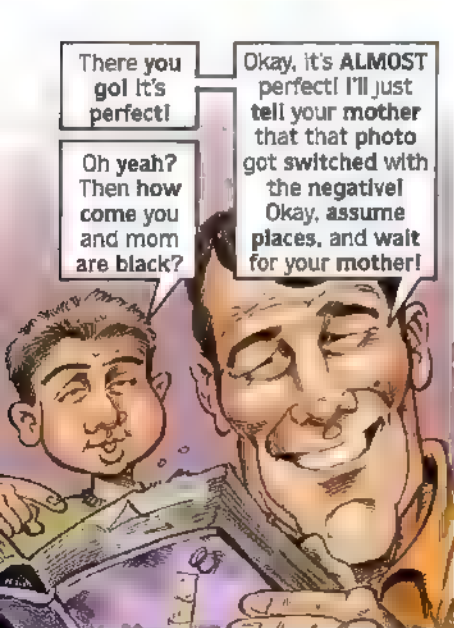
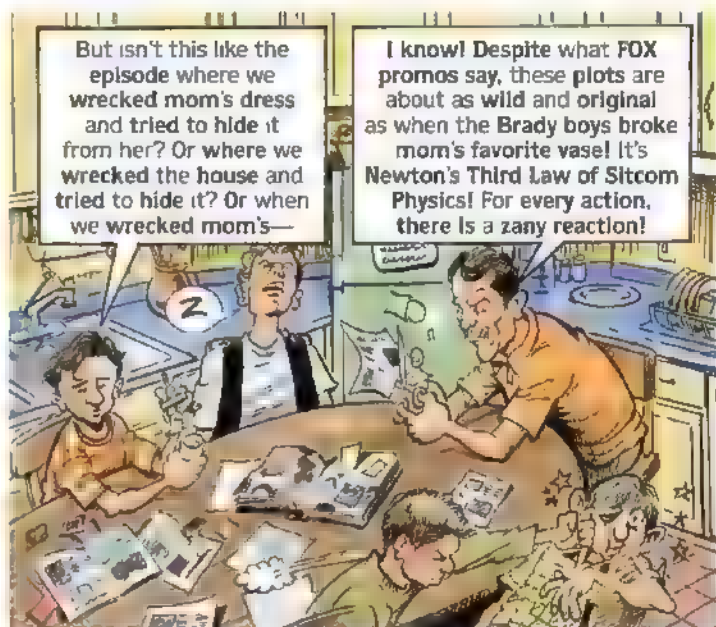
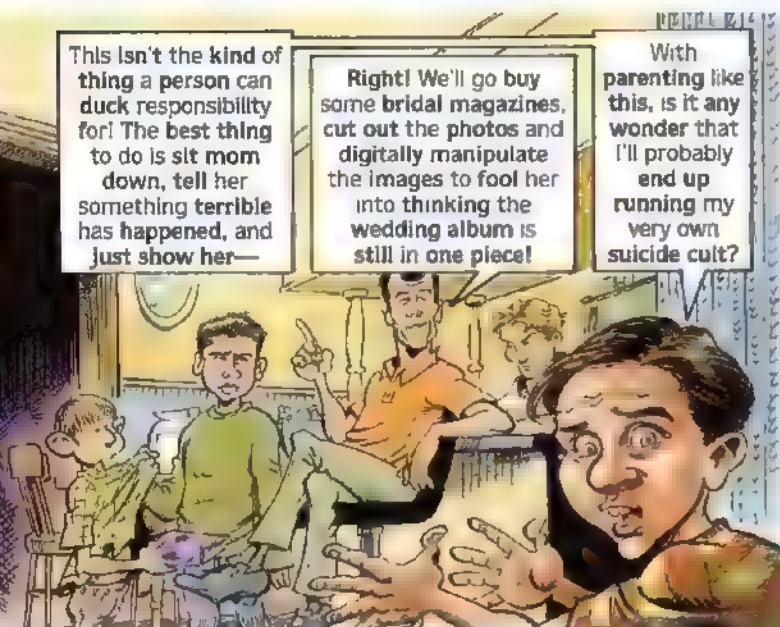
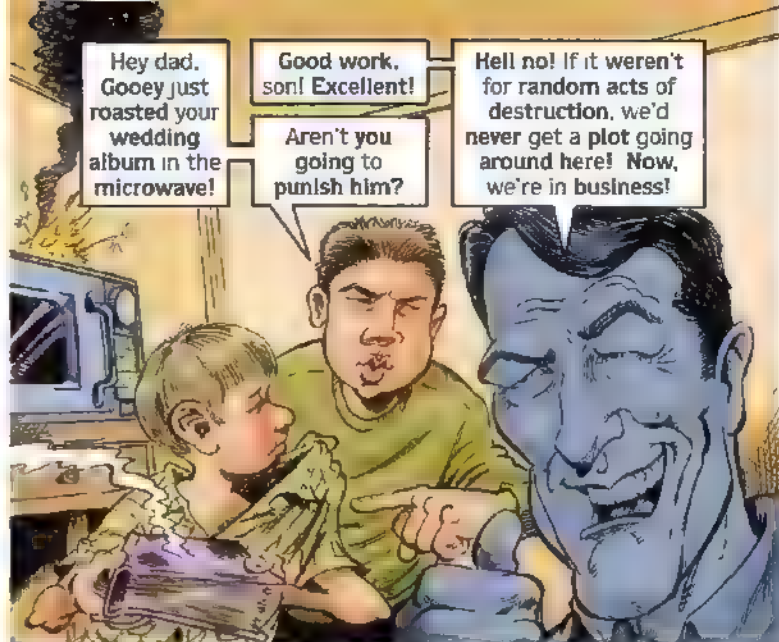
Coming over to visit is my friend Skeevy! He was the second person Fox TV signed under its "Hire the Handicapped" program! The first was Keith Olbermann!



Richmond 00









While we're waiting, let me help you with your math homework!

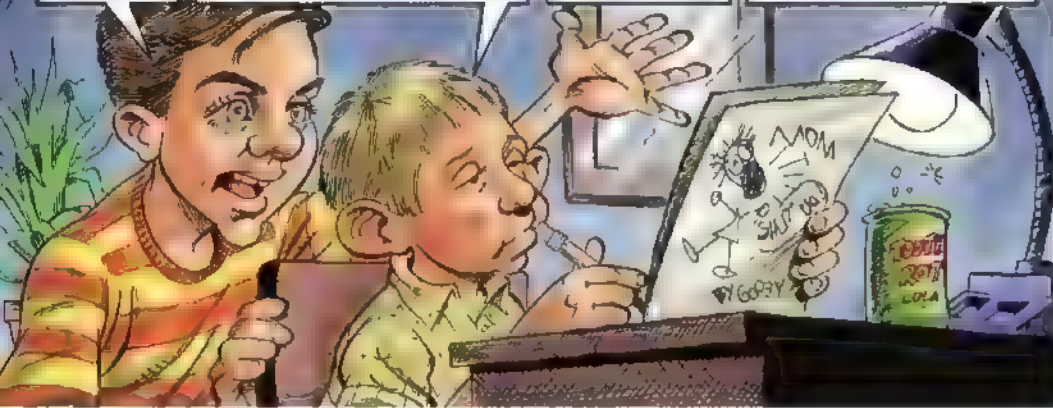
Four plus four is eight! But only six of the eight count! So we count it again, and this time it comes out twelve! Except we didn't get up to twelve until after 5 o'clock, so the answer is really seven!

Those numbers are completely absurd!

Then how come my math teacher gave me an A-minus?

Maybe she's grading on the curve...of the lumps in your head! Where is that incompetent teacher from?

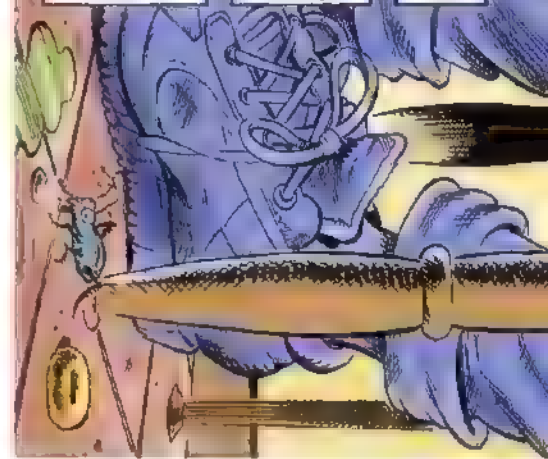
She was an election official in Florida!



What now? Who thought up this eye-catching camera angle?

Nobody! The cameraman just fell asleep!

Yeah, I know the feeling!



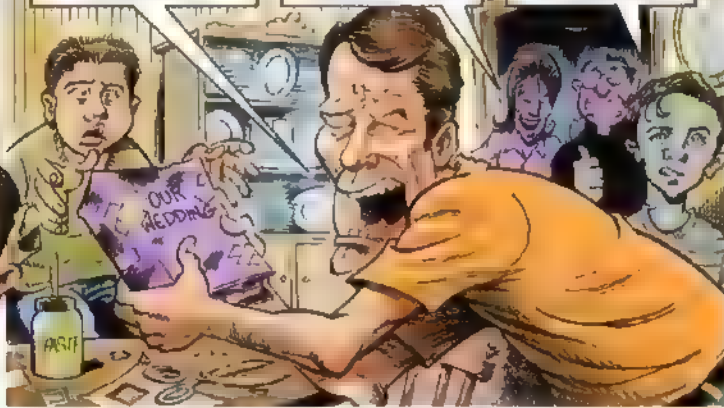
Okay, enough dysfunctional interaction! It's time for Newton's Fourth Law of Sitcom Physics! The shortest distance between two plot points is the most implausible!

I'm home!

Quick! Put this back on the shelf! Hopefully, it'll be five years before she even bothers to...

Look who I've been reminiscing with! The minister who married us! And he wants to see the wedding album!

This is the kind of nutty coincidence you only get on TV! Which is a very good argument for going to museums!



Hold it! Why is it so quiet in here?

Because we don't have a jarring laugh track like most ordinary, badly-written sitcoms do!

We also don't have as many LAUGHS like ordinary, badly-written sitcoms do either!



We have a quirk-o-meter!

What's a quirk-o-meter?

It measures the level of unusual behavior in our house! In lieu of actual comedy we just throw a load of weird stuff against the wall each week and hope that the audience thinks they've been entertained!

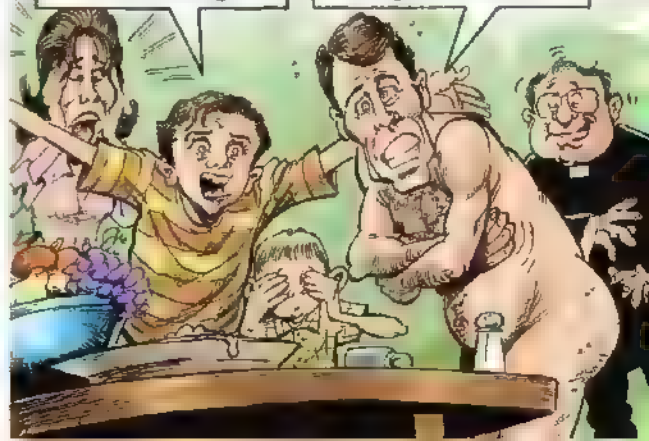
Kids, come look! It took me three years, but I filled up an empty mayonnaise jar with toenail clippings!

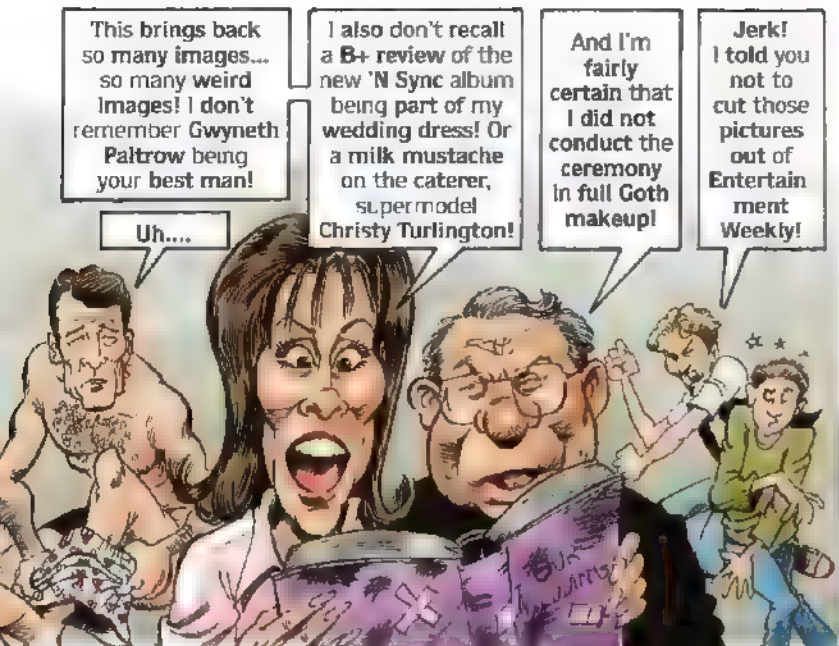
Careful, Dad! You just busted the quirk-o-meter into smithereens!



Dad, this is like the 30th gratuitous naked scene we've done this season! It's getting embarrassing!

You're embarrassed? How do you think I feel? It's so cold in here they have me blocked off by a tiny salt shaker!





This brings back so many images... so many weird images! I don't remember Gwyneth Paltrow being your best man!

Uh....

I also don't recall a B+ review of the new 'N Sync album being part of my wedding dress! Or a milk mustache on the caterer, supermodel Christy Turlington!

And I'm fairly certain that I did not conduct the ceremony in full Goth makeup!

Jerk! I told you not to cut those pictures out of Entertainment Weekly!



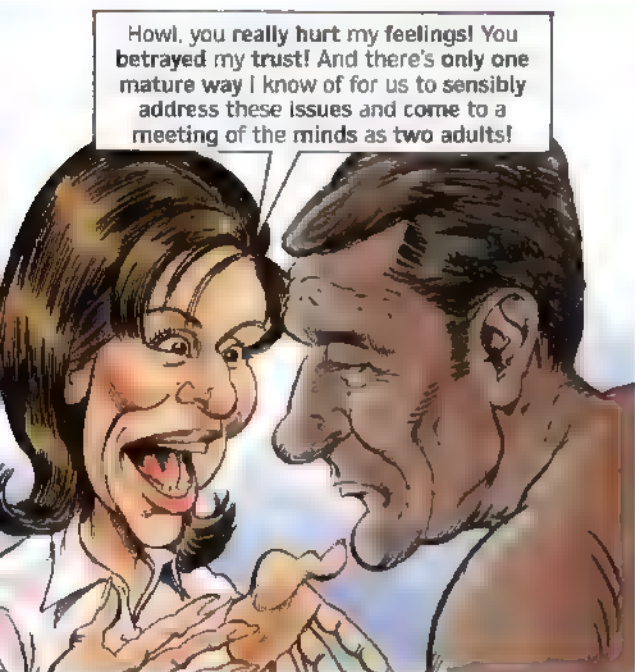
What's the story?

It's like this...GAAA! Hamstring pull! I'm down! Ahhh!

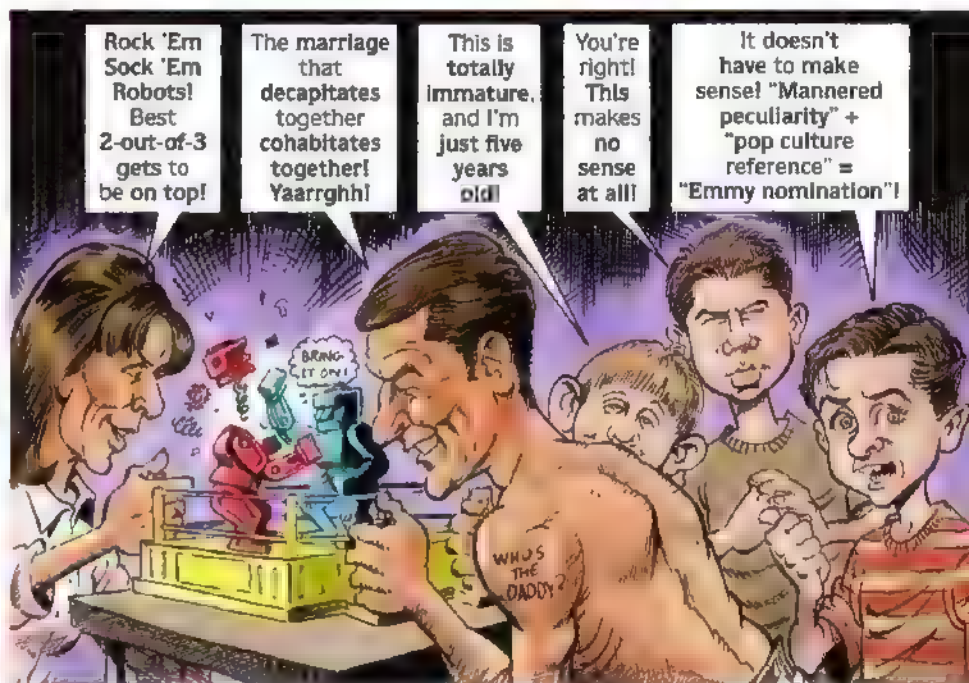
Nice try, Shaq! Now do I get the real story, or do I dye your hair blue in your sleep again?

What do you think about when mom and dad get into these kinds of discussions?

I just hope my court-appointed psychiatrist will be a hot babe!



Howl, you really hurt my feelings! You betrayed my trust! And there's only one mature way I know of for us to sensibly address these issues and come to a meeting of the minds as two adults!



Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots! Best 2-out-of-3 gets to be on top!

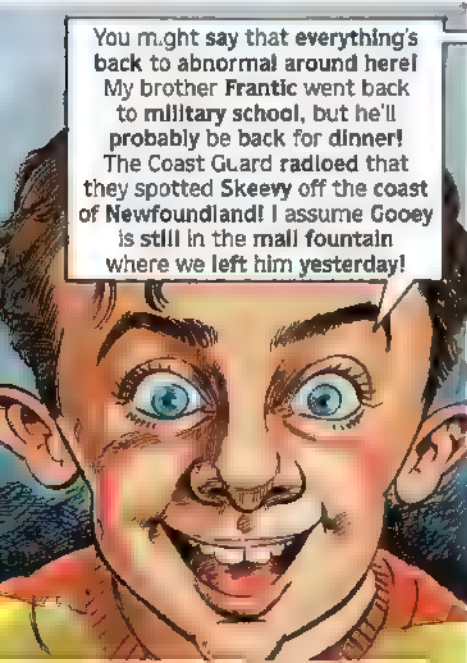
The marriage that decapitates together cohabitates together! Yaarrghh!

This is totally immature, and I'm just five years old!

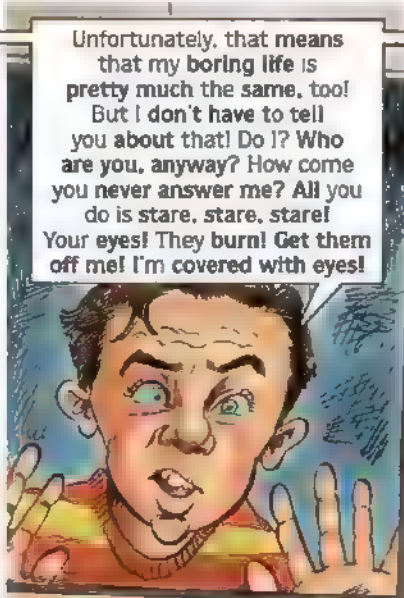
You're right! This makes no sense at all!

It doesn't have to make sense! "Mannered peculiarity" + "pop culture reference" = "Emmy nomination"!

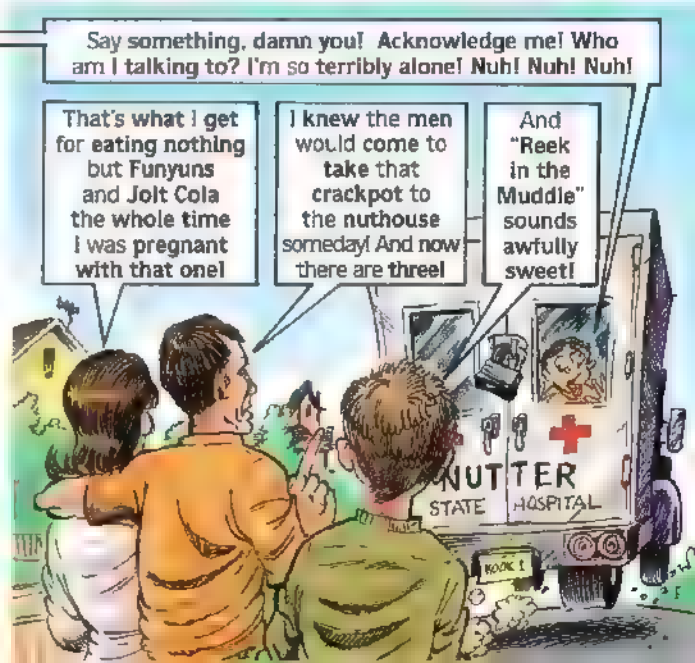
ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #403 MAR 2001



You might say that everything's back to abnormal around here! My brother Frantic went back to military school, but he'll probably be back for dinner! The Coast Guard radioed that they spotted Skeezy off the coast of Newfoundland! I assume Goovey is still in the mall fountain where we left him yesterday!



Unfortunately, that means that my boring life is pretty much the same, too! But I don't have to tell you about that! Do I? Who are you, anyway? How come you never answer me? All you do is stare, stare, stare! Your eyes! They burn! Get them off me! I'm covered with eyes!



Say something, damn you! Acknowledge me! Who am I talking to? I'm so terribly alone! Nuh! Nuh! Nuh!

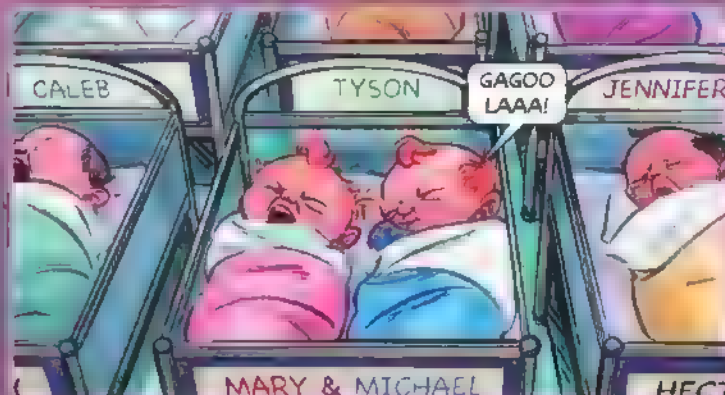
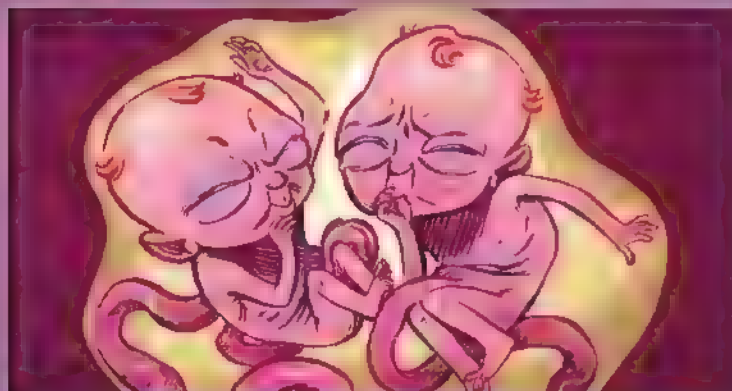
That's what I get for eating nothing but Funyuns and Jolt Cola the whole time I was pregnant with that one!

I knew the men would come to take that crackpot to the nuthouse someday! And now there are three!

And "Reek in the Muddle" sounds awfully sweet!



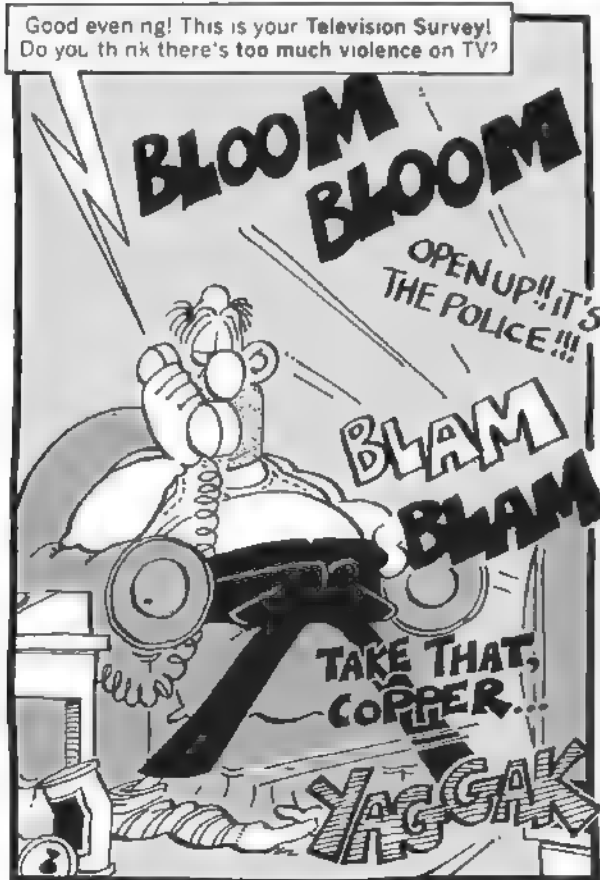
SIBLING RIVALRY





ONE FINE EVENING DURING PRIME TIME

WRITER & ARTIST DON MARTIN



GIVE MAD THE FINGER...

...BY SCROLLING AND READING IT ON DC GO!

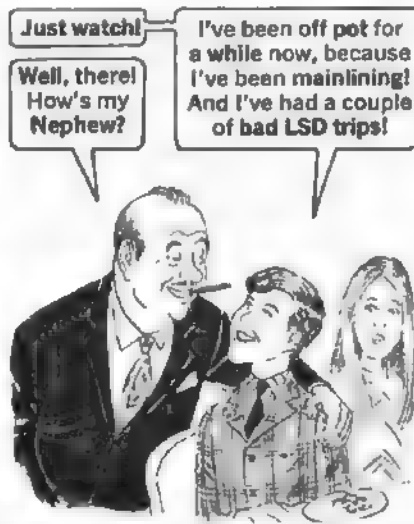
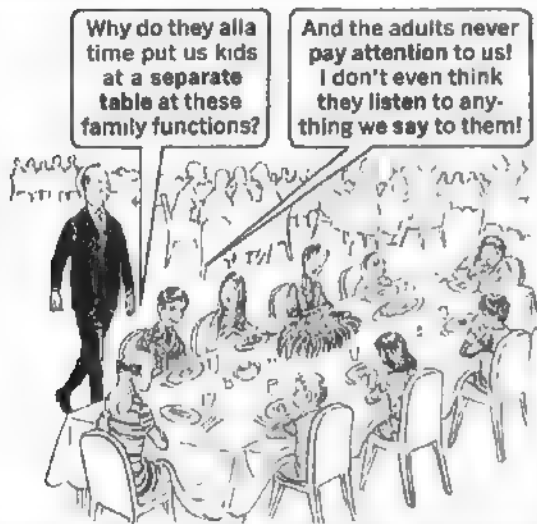
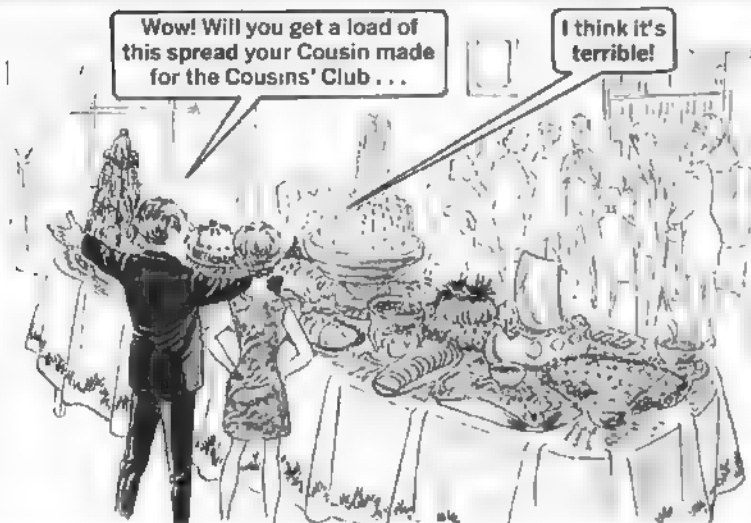


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THE LIGHTER SIDE OF... FAMILY





GATHERINGS

WRITER & ARTIST DAVE BERG

Did you hear about
Cousin Marion and
Sidney? Their
marriage is kaput!

My Sister's boy
is in trouble
with the law!
Narcotics!!

You know that
nice business
Uncle Milt had?
Bankrupt!!

Did you hear
about my Brother's
operation? It was
touch-and-go!

Aunt Lucy
is not long
for this
world!

Did you hear
what happened to
Cousin Carl—may
he rest in peace?

It's nice to
get together
with the
family!

Especially
on such
happy
occasions!!



I'm on the Groom's
side of the family!
Whose side are you on?

The
Groom's
side!

No, you're not, stupid!
You're on the Bride's
side! She's your Cousin!

That's right!
The Bride is
my Cousin!

We grew up together! And in
all those years, we never
got along and I never won
an argument with her! She's
five-foot-two-inches of pure
anger, temper and hostility!

And that's why I'm
on the Groom's side!



HE SAID, "COUSIN PHYLLIS IS
A KLEPTOMANIAC ... BUT DON'T
BLAB IT ALL OVER THE PLACE!
IT'S A FAMILY SECRET!"

Whew! Am I glad that's over!
What a crummy family you come
from! All that showing-off and
back-stabbing and put-downs and
petty jealousies and snubbing!

Boy, I've
seen some
rotten things
going on in
your family!

Well, I really
must admit I've
never seen things
like that going
on in your family!

BECAUSE NONE OF
THE MEMBERS OF
YOUR FAMILY
SPEAK TO EACH
OTHER!



My son Arnold, the Doctor, is Head of the Department at his Hospital! And my son Arnold, the Doctor, is writing a special article for a Medical Journal! And my son Arnold, the Doctor—

Will you stop with the "My son Arnold, the Doctor" already! We're all related to him! We KNOW he's a Doctor!

Besides! My son, Bruce, is also involved with the Medical Profession!

HOW is your son, Bruce, involved with the Medical Profession?

He's a PATIENT!!



Boy... am I sorry I came!

Me, too!

I hate these family affairs!

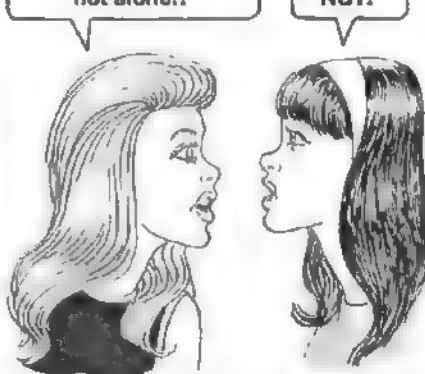
Me, too!

You DO?! You mean somebody ELSE feels the way I do! I'm not alone!?

You certainly are NOT!

Gee... I'm so glad I came!

Me, too!



This family is in a rut! Every Thanksgiving, the same things happen! Aunt Selma will say, "I'm on a diet—and everything looks so delicious!" Uncle Lou will say, "I'm so full, I think I'm gonna burst..."

The children will fight over the drumsticks! Grandma will re-live her childhood! The men will talk about the stock market! The women will slice up any relative that doesn't show up! Aunt Tessy will tell us about her operation! And Nick will watch the football game!

What a dull, predictable bunch!

You're right! It is a bore!

Every Thanksgiving, YOU make the same observations!



I can't sleep!

Is it any wonder!

It happens every time we go to your folks' house for a family get-together!

Yes, that's true!

It must have something to do with being amongst all those hostile in-laws!

Don't give me that, Buster!

It has to do with the fact that you always fall asleep the minute we get there! No wonder you're not sleepy now!



Ohhh! It's terrible to get old! My arthritis is killing me! It was all I could do to walk up the steps outside!



You think you've got troubles! I've got bursitis, high blood pressure and varicose veins!



Listen! The music is starting!



Let's get a little closer to the band!



Look at my sisters! Sylvia is only a little older than me, and she has **TWO** Grandchildren already! And Martha is busy showing pictures of her **FOUR** Grandchildren!



When are you going to stop with the wild oats, get married, settle down, and make **ME** a grandmother?



I might just take you up on that! It's nice to know that my child'll have a Grandmother who can be depended on to take 2 o'clock feedings, and change diapers and baby-sit and do all the other things Grandmothers do!



You know—when you think about it, I'm really **TOO YOUNG** to be a Grandmother!!



I'm racking my brain trying to figure out what to get Cousin Henrietta for her Engagement present!



Leave it to your Mother!

I have here a book that will tell us **EXACTLY** what to give her! Just let me look it up...



Here it is! Give her a **\$20** hair dryer!



That's a good idea! How do you know exactly what to give her?

Because when you were engaged, that's exactly what she gave you!!



As long as I've got the whole family together, let me take a picture! Okay—everybody over there!



He's at it again! Every family has to have a camera nuisance!

Forget it! I'm not moving from this chair!



My hair is a mess!

Go away! Stop bothering us!

While you were all so busy protesting, I was busy shooting **CANDID PHOTOS** of you all!



You didn't! You wouldn't dare!

You sneaky son of a gun!

Er... I'd like a copy of each shot!

Me, too, please!

So would I!



HELL IS WHERE THE HEART IS DEPT.

Presenting the trailer for a ghoulishly festive film featuring your favorite horror icons, all coming together to celebrate the season in...

THE FAMILY FROM HELL: Home for the Holidays

STARRING...

The warm (well, singed) and paternal FREDDY KRUEGER as dear old Dead...er, Dad



The bride of Chucky, TIFFANY VALENTINE, as the merry murdering Mom, CUIO as the family pet, and GHOSTFACE as their nosy neighbor



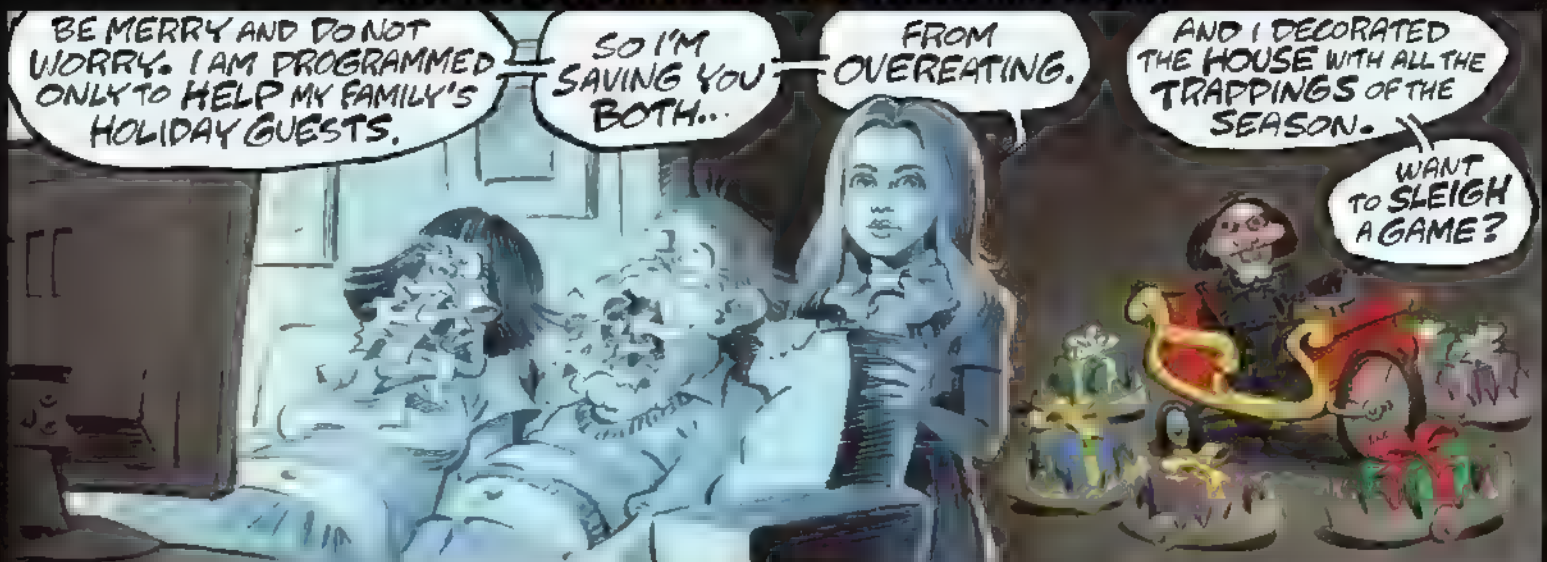
WRITER BROCKTON MCKINNEY ARTIST GIDEON KENDALL

ALSO FEATURING...

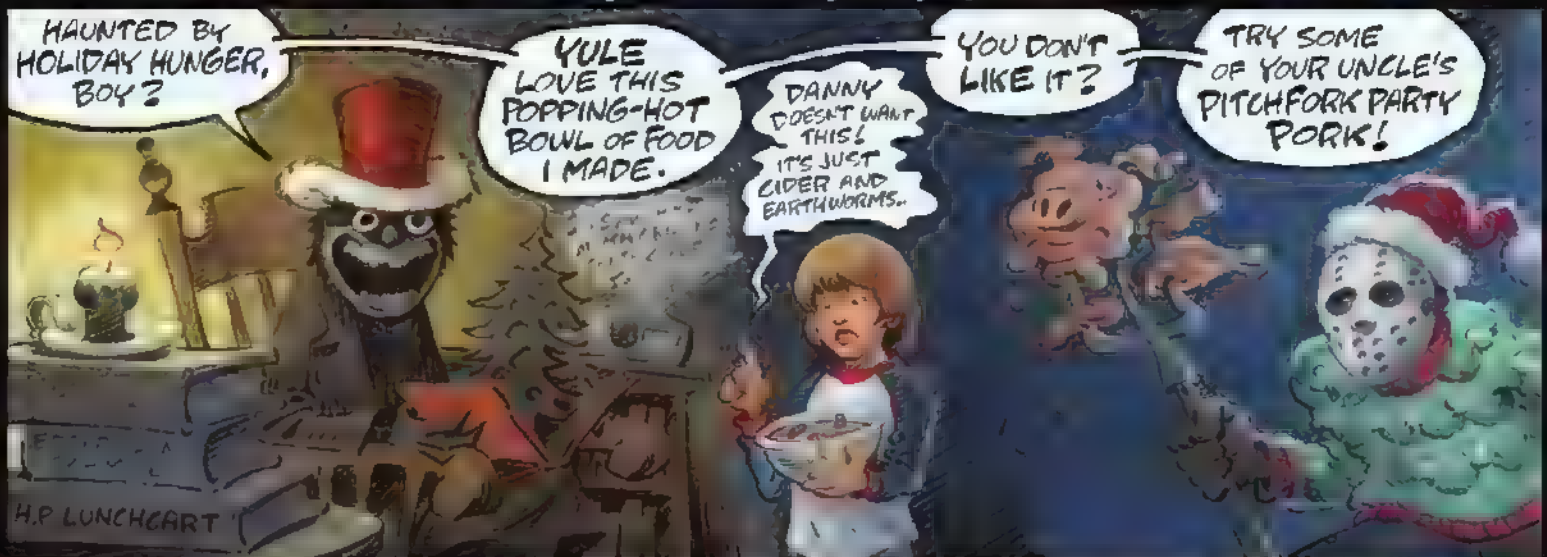
DAMIEN from *The Omen* as the brooding big brother, and **HOLLY BERRIES** as his festively possessed nanny



The mirthful, mechanical maniac **M3GAN** as the big sister, and the dearly deprived **BILLY THE PUPPET** from *Saw* as the lovable little brother



That convivial creature **THE BABADOOK** as the grumpy Grandfather, **DANNY TORRANCE** from *The Shining* as Cousin Tony, and jolly **JASON VORHEES** as Unca' Jason



COMING SOON DOWN YOUR CHIMNEY—OR ON A CURSED VHS TAPE—THIS WINTER!



Christmas! The time of year when family members gather around the hearth to bond and express love and good cheer whilst the smell of pine trees and freshly baked goods wafts throughout the loving household. Yeah, right! Maybe in a Norman Rockwell painting! But not in any American family we've seen lately! These days it seems most family members can barely stand to be in the same room with each other, let alone exchange gifts and pleasantries! And so it is with these pathetic, screwed-up Americans in mind that we now present...

Christmas Carols FOR Dysfunctional Families



It Started With a Glass of Beer

(Sung to the tune of
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear")

*It start-ed wi-ith a glass of beer —
The way that it so often does;
Soon Fred had knocked off a pint of rye,
And Marge had one helluva buzz;
The yell-ing started 'round half past nine,
The slaps and the punches at ten;
The screams grew loud and the neighbors knew
The Sweeneys were at it again.*

*His eyes were bla-ack from countless blows;
Her body was bloodied and raw;
His nose was broken — he'd lost four teeth
From stopping a vase with his jaw;
They've loathed each other since God knows when,
And neither shows any remorse;
They'll stick together because they know
The Church won't permit a divorce.*

Hark! The Gossip Fills The Air

(Sung to the tune of
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

*Hark! The gossip fills the air —
Mom's begun a new affair;
Sneaking off to get her ki-icks —
Down the road at Motel 6;
Filled with mid-life lust and hunger,
Ev'ry year she likes them younger;
Who'd have thought her days she'd spend
Getting it on...with my best friend!
Shack-ing up for days on end —
Getting it on...with my best friend!*



Rudy the Deadbeat Father

(Sung to the tune of
"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer")

*Rudy the deadbeat fath-er
Won't support his fam-i-ly —
Dooming his wife and children
To a life of pov-er-ty.*

*Rudy enjoys the good life —
Takes a Roy-al Princess cruise;
Makes it with busty bim-bos —
Drinks the most ex-pen-sive booze.*

*When the law got on his trail,
Rudy changed his name;
Grew a moustache and goatee,
Had some plastic sur-ger-y.*

*Rudy the deadbeat fath-er
Loves the glitter and the glow;
If he had on-ly known it,
He'd have split ten years ago!*



WRITER FRANK JACOBS ARTIST TOM BUNK

Uncle Claude is Coming to Town

(Sung to the tune of "Santa Claus is Coming to Town")



*You better lock up
The kiddies today;
A lusty old gent
Is heading your way —
Uncle Claude is coming to town!*

*He's got a big smile;
He's giving out toys;
He's hot as can be
For underage boys —
Uncle Claude is coming to town!*

*He's such a jolly fellow;
He's always full of fun;
He'll lure your kid
In to his room
For a game of "One on One"!*

*And should he strike out,
He doesn't much care;
The Internet's filled
With kiddie-porn there —
Uncle Claude is coming to town!*

Every Week They Drop Another Grand

(Sung to the tune of
"Winter Wonderland")

There it stands —
The casino;
Mom's inside,
Playing keno;
She's there night and day;
She can't stay away;
Ev'ry week she drops
another grand.

See my dad
Roll the dice there,
With his luck
Cold as ice there;
He doubles his bets
As well as his debts;
Ev'ry week he drops
another grand.

Yesterday they repossessed
our Taurus;
Dad's now cashing out his I-R-A;
Things are even worse for
Cousin Horace
Beaten up by bookies he
can't pay.



Christmas Eve —
There's no tree here;
Folks are gone —
There's just me here;
They're trying once more
To make a big score —
You can bet they'll drop
another grand!



Fill the House

(Sung to the tune of "Deck the Halls")

Fill the house with jubilation!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Billy Bob is on probation!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Ellie slept with brother Chester!
Fa la la, la la la, la la la!
Now she's in her third trimester!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!

Give a cheer — we're all together!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Claire is into whips and leather!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Roy has formed his own militia!
Fa la la, la la la, la la la!
Clem's a pimp for cousin Tricia!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!

Gather 'round and give a blessing!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Uncle Fred is still cross-dressing!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Jeff is on the floor with Donna!
Fa la la, la la la, la la la!
Stoned on home-grown marijuana!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!



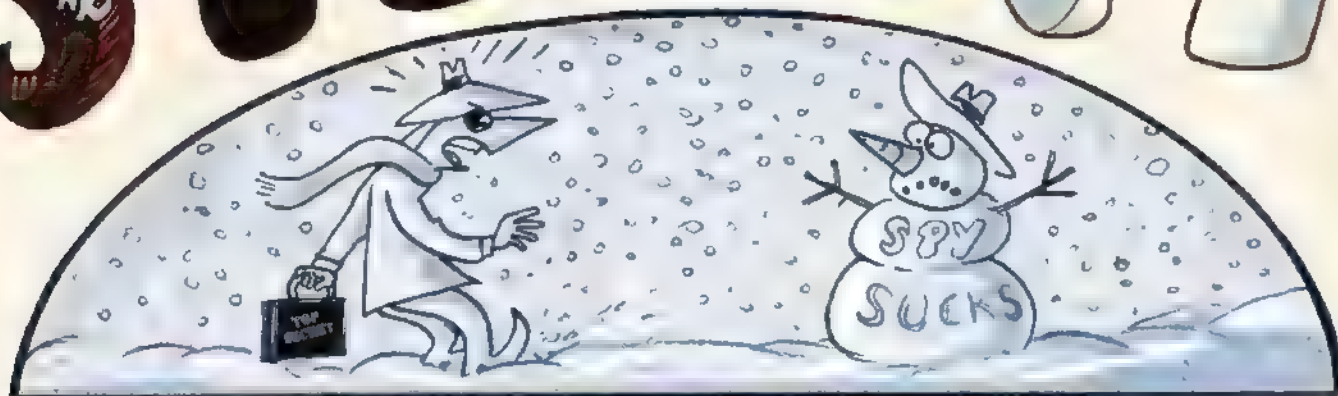
Join our Christmas celebration —
Fa la la la la, la la la la!
Make our house your destination —
Fa la la la la, la la la la!

Ev'ry year's a real hum dinger —
Fa la la, la la la, la la la!
Catch us soon on Jerry Springer!
Fa la la la la, la la la la!



SPY VS SPY

WRITER & ARTIST
FITCH KUPER





WRITER **DESMOND DEVLIN** ARTIST **GEORGE WOODBRIDGE**



"If you loved your fish as much as he loved you, maybe he wouldn't have died."



"That was grandpa. He's in Hell now."



"Billy will be ready as soon as he's finished changing the bed sheets he wet last night."

EXCERPTS FROM "THE DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILY CIRCUS" ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN MAD #333, JAN/FEB 1995

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WHAT IS YET
ANOTHER CAUSE
OF BROKEN
HOMES IN
THE USA?

HERE WE GO WITH AN ALL-NEW **MAD FOLD-IN**

Infidelity. Drug and alcohol abuse. Gambling. These and other risky activities have long been the cause of broken homes. However, there is yet another shameful undertaking now wreaking havoc in households across the country. To see what that is, fold in as shown.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A

FOLD PAGE OVER LEFT

B

FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



INNOCENCE IS SHATTERED AS A SHOCKING MENACE
RAMPAGES THROUGH TIGHT-KNIT COMMUNITIES. KIDS
ARE NOT SAFE FROM ITS DIRE CONSEQUENCES.
SADLY, THIS RISING THREAT KNOWS NO BOUNDS.

A

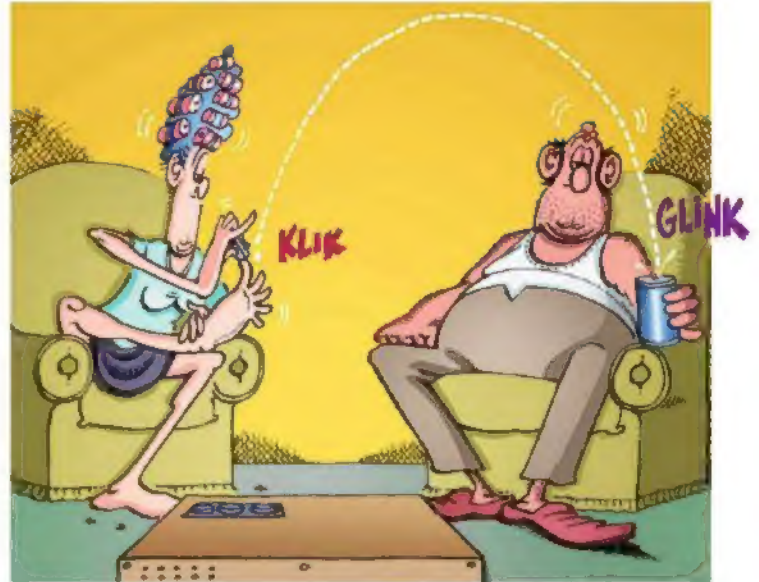
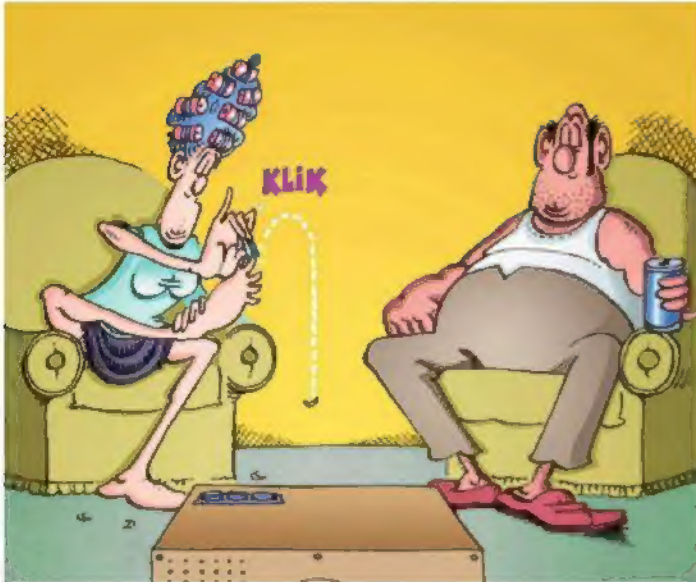
WRITER & ARTIST **JOHNNY SAMPSON**

B

ONE EVENING AT HOME

WRITER & ARTIST DON MARTIN

COLORIST CARRIE STRACHAN



WHAT IS YET
ANOTHER CAUSE
OF BROKEN
HOMES IN
THE USA?



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A B FOLD BACK SO THAT "A" MEETS "B"



ICE
RAIDS

A B